FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 148 *1 August 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Saudi Prince Fahd Meets Arab League's Riyad	A 1	1/A7
VOP Reports 'Arafat's Press Conference in Havana	A 1	1/A7
Fatah Delegation's Visit to USSR To Last 10 Days [VOP]	A 1	1/A7
INA Reports on Inter-Palestinian Clashes in Sidon	A 2	1/A8
Baghdad VOP: 'Arafat Forces Attack Rejectionists	A 2	1/A8
Arab Group at Belgrade Discusses Middle East	A 2	1/A8
Fatah's Abu Salih Cited on Unity Program	A 3	1/A9

ARABIAN PENINSULA

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Companies Required To Buy Local Saudi Goods	C 1	1/A10

UAE

Foreign Minister Returns From Nonalined Conference	C 1	1/A10
AL-FAJR Comments on Secretary Vance's Coming Mideast Tour	C 1	1/A10

YEMEN--PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad Receives Socialist Ambassadors	C 2	1/A11
Muhammad Denies Presence of Foreign Bases	C 2	1/A11

YEMEN--YAR

President Salih Praises Relations With Saudi Arabia	C 2	1/A11
Salih Receives Letters From Tunisian, Algerian Presidents	C 3	1/A12
Salih Receives Cable From Hungarian President Losonczi	C 3	1/A12

EGYPT

Saudi Prince Sa'ud, Arab League's Riyad Meet With Kamil	D 1	1/A13
Saudi Crown Prince Fahd Leaves for Damascus	D 1	1/A13
As-Sadat on Talks	D 1	1/A13
Prince Fahd Sends Cable	D 2	1/A14
As-Sadat Sends Reply Cable	D 2	1/A14
Minister of State Ghali Returns From Belgrade	D 3	1/B1
MENA: Carter Holding Consultations on Mideast	D 3	1/B1
MENA: Vance To Bring Letter From Carter	D 4	1/B2
AL-AHRAM Responds to Israeli Comment on As-Sadat	D 4	1/B2
National Security Council Meeting Postponed	D 5	1/B3
Investigation of Reporter Husayn Fahmi Begins	D 5	1/B3

IRAQ

Embassy Attack Blamed on Syria, PLO	E 1	1/B4
Iraqi Ambassador to UK Returns to Baghdad	E 1	1/B4
Baghdad Cites British Paper on Campaign Against Iraq	E 1	1/B4
Eritrean Popular Front Delegation Leaves Baghdad	E 2	1/B5
Iraqi-Romanian Joint Commission Meets in Baghdad	E 2	1/B5
Envoy Returns From YAR, PDRY, Saudi Arabia Tour	E 2	1/B5
Saddam Husayn Visits Public Security Directorate	E 3	1/B6
Iraq Abrogates Rehabilitation Law of 1967	E 3	1/B6
Iraq, Kuwait Sign Agreement on Trade	E 3	1/B6
INA: 200 Syrian Officers Dismissed by Al-Asad	E 3	1/B6
Bodies of Two Palestinians Killed in Libya Arrive	E 4	1/B7
U.S. Drug Manufacturers To Be Boycotted	E 4	1/B7
Briefs: New Iranian Ambassador; Ambassador to France	E 4	1/B7

LEBANON

President Sarkis Delivers Army Day Speech	G 1	1/B8
Voice of Lebanon: Syrian Forces Open Fire on Eastern Beirut	G 2	1/B9
Arab Deterrent Forces on Security Situation 31 July	G 2	1/B9
Voice of Lebanon Blames Syrians for Recent Incidents	G 3	1/B10
Beirut Radio on Situation in Beirut, 1 August	G 3	1/B10
Lebanese Forces Unified Command Holds Meeting [Voice of Lebanon]	G 3	1/B10
Prime Minister Discusses Army Return to South	G 4	1/B11
Army's Early Progress	G 4	1/B11
Israel Reports on Lebanese Forces Advance South	G 5	1/B12
Details on Military Situation	G 5	1/B12
Forces Stopped at Kawkaba	G 6	1/B13
AFP: Further Report on Halt of Lebanese Forces	G 6	1/B13
Voice of Lebanon on Army's Entry Into South	G 7	1/B14
Cities Reported Israeli Shelling	G 8	1/C1
UNIFIL Issues Communique on S. Lebanon Situation	G 8	1/C1
Israeli: Christian Militias Continue Shelling	G 8	1/C1
Will Oppose Army's Entry	G 9	1/C2
Army Command Issues Progress Report	G 9	1/C2
Comments on Israeli Shelling	G 9	1/C2

SYRIA

Support Continues for Legal Authority in Lebanon	H 1	1/C3
Damascus Paper Says No Peace With As-Sadat Regime	H 1	1/C3
Saudi Crown Prince Fahd Arrives in Damascus	H 1	1/C3
Meets With Al-Asad	H 2	1/C4
Area Situation Discussed	H 2	1/C4
Saudi Commerce Minister in Damascus on 3-Day Visit	H 2	1/C4
New Radio Station Opens at Dayr az-Zawr	H 2	1/C4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bouteflika, Mozambique's Chissano Arrive From Belgrade	I 1	1/C5

LIBYA

PDRY Finance Minister Arrives With Message for Al-Qadhdhafi	I 1	1/C5
JANA Editor Comments on Statements by Mubarak	I 1	1/C5
Al-Qadhdhafi Lectures Students, Officers in Misratah	I 2	1/C6

MOROCCO

Boucetta Meets With SFRY's Mojsov in Belgrade I 2 1/C6
Reports on Arab Meeting I 3 1/C7
Mauritanian Minister Brings Message for King Hassan I 4 1/C8
Departs After Visit I 4 1/C8
Egyptian Vice President Mubarak Leaves I 4 1/C8
Hassan Receives Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau I 4 1/C8

SUDAN

President Numayri Gives Monthly Talk to Nation I 4 1/C8

TUNISIA

Tunisia Denies Attending Meeting To Indict As-Sadat I 5 1/C9
Bourguiba To Undergo Checkup in Paris Clinic I 6 1/C10
Algiers Reports Sentences in Sfax TU Trial I 6 1/C10

WESTERN SAHARA

Defense Ministry 27 July Communique Reports Successes I 6 1/C10

ISRAEL

Begin Lauds U.S. Statement on As-Sadat Stance N 1 1/C11
Dayan Reports To Knesset Committee on Peace Talks N 1 1/C11
Peres: Begin Stance Increasingly Isolates Israel [HAZOFE 31 Jul] N 1 1/C11
Editorial Calls for Action Against Syrians in Lebanon [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 31 Jul] N 2 /C12
Lebanon Urged To Take Firmer Steps Against Syrians [MA'ARIV 31 Jul] N 2 1/C12
U.S. Pressuring Israel To Facilitate Lebanese Army Move [MA'ARIV 1 Aug] N 3 1/C13
Israel Will Not Act in Lebanon Without U.S. Coordination [MA'ARIV 31 Jul] N 3 1/C13
Government Will Not Forsake Lebanese Christians [HA'AREZ 31 Jul] N 4 1/C14
Supervision Over Arab Funds for Gaza Increased [MA'ARIV 31 Jul] N 4 1/C14
Defense Ministry Lessens Involvement in Settlements [HA'AREZ 31 Jul] N 4 1/C14
Regional Council Set Up for W. Bank Settlements [HA'AREZ 1 Aug] N 5 1/D1
Ministers To Discuss Further W. Bank Construction [MA'ARIV 28 Jul] N 5 1/D1
Al-Jumayyil Reportedly in Israel for Talks N 6 1/D2
Reported Visit Denied N 6 1/D2
Israeli, Lebanese Officers Hold Talks in An-Naqura N 6 1/D2
Deputy Defense Minister Meets Norwegian Officer N 7 1/D3
Poll Shows Weizman Thought Heir To Begin [HA'AREZ 31 Jul] N 7 1/D3

IRAN

PRC Petroleum Minister Arrives for Visit R 1 1/D4
Visits Oil Installations R 1 1/D4
Continues Visit R 1 1/D4
Received by Industry Minister R 1 1/D4
Advocates Extensive Cooperation R 2 1/D5
Chairman Hua To Visit Iran in August R 2 1/D5
Briefs: Air Agreement With Jordan; Cholera Under Control R 2 1/D5

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA

Desai Comments on Nuclear Policy, 1974 Pokhran Explosion	S 1	1/D6
Pro-Peking Extremists Apparently Reappearing in India	S 1	1/D6
Investigation of Military Espionage Case Reported [ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA 24 Jul]	S 2	1/D7
Delhi PATRIOT Chides Vajpayee's Move To Normalize PRC Ties [24 Jul]	S 2	1/D7

NEPAL

Aryal Meets With Foreign Ministers in Belgrade	S 3	1/D8

PAKISTAN

Haq: Pakistan To Reconsider CENTO Membership	S 3	1/D8
Dubai Ruler Concludes Visit to Karachi	S 3	1/D8

Item 856-3-6

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SAUDI PRINCE FAHD MEETS ARAB LEAGUE'S RIYAD

NC3117137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 31 July--Saudi Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister Price Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz met with Arab League Secretary Mahmud Riyad today. During the meeting they discussed the current Arab situation and the efforts being made to restore solidarity. Mahmud Riyad said that the current stage through which the Arab nation is passing in the face of Israel's arrogance requires the mobilization of efforts to strengthen collective Arab action. Riyad said there is no disagreement as far as the Arab objectives are concerned, particularly those connected with Arab national security.

VOP REPORTS 'ARAFAT'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN HAVANA

JN3118397 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1615 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] At the invitation of the international press center in Havana and at the request of the correspondents of the world information media currently participating in the 11th World Youth and Students Festival, brother Abu 'Ammar met with some 1000 journalists representing the various world press agencies, radios and TV stations. Addressing the meeting, brother Abu 'Ammar congratulated the friendly people of Cuba and their leading party struggler Comrade Fidel Castro on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of [words indistinct].

In his statement brother Abu 'Ammar stressed the importance of holding the World Youth and Students Festival in Latin America for the first time. He said that this confirms the unity of the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and all the progressive forces in the world against imperialism, Zionism and racism. Brother Abu 'Ammar lauded the Cuban revolution and its position on the Palestinian issue. He said that Cuba, its people and government have supported the Palestinian people's cause and revolution [words indistinct] to regain and set up their independent state on their soil.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also praised the stand of world youth supporting the Palestinian issue. He said: The world youth [words indistinct] on the side of our people. We are confident that the Havana festival [words indistinct]. Brother abu 'Ammar added: This worldwide support will undoubtedly enable our people to score victory over imperialism, Zionism and racism, which has usurped our homeland and evicted our people. Our people will set up their independent state in Palestine, the land of love and peace.

In conclusion, brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that a just and durable solution in the Middle East will be reached only by achieving the firm and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people under the PLO. He said: Peace begins with Palestine and war can begin from Palestine as well.

FATAH DELEGATION'S VISIT TO USSR TO LAST 10 DAYS

JN3119007 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] The political editor of WAFA has learned that the current visit of the Fatah delegation to Moscow will last 10 days. The program of the visit is full of meetings with members of the CPSU Central Committee and the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The WAFA editor has also learned that a meeting was held on (?21) July between the Palestinian delegation, headed by brother Abu Mazin and including Abu Iyad, Abu Salih and Abu (Tariq), and a committee representing the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and members of the CPSU Central Committee headed by Comrade [name indistinct], vice chairman of the Solidarity Committee. The meeting lasted for more than 3 hours, during which the two sides discussed political issues and the Middle East problem, especially the Palestinian cause.

INA REPORTS ON INTER-PALESTINIAN CLASHES IN SIDON

JN0108O3Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 1 August--Violent clashes took place last night in the southern city of Sidon and lasted for more than 5 hours between the rejectionist Palestinian front and groups of rightist Palestinians. An INA correspondent in southern Lebanon says that the clashes, in which various arms were used inside the old quarters of the city, injured three people and damaged a number of shops.

BAGHDAD VOP: 'ARAFAT FORCES ATTACK REJECTIONISTS

JN3120345Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut--In order to further escalate the bloody course aimed at preparing the Lebanese-Palestinian arena for the next stage of imposing the liquidationist plans on the masses and the revolutionaries, eliminating the national, democratic and revolutionary forces, armed elements belonging to the Palestinian right under 'Arafat opened fire at the Palestinian rejectionist forces from all positions. [place not specified]

Following this attack large sectors of our masses came out calling for a cease-fire, but 'Arafat's armed elements refused and went on shelling the offices of the Palestinian rejectionist forces. This shelling led to severe damage of some houses near the offices.

At 1900 a cease-fire was observed, but firing was resumed at 2030 when the Palestinian right under 'Arafat seized the opportunity of a rally held at the Nahr al-Barid camp in commemoration of the martyrdom of the leader struggler Hajj Hasan to open fire with 106 mm artillery, mortars and machineguns on some positions of the Palestinian rejectionist forces at Nahr al-Barid.

The attack led to the injury of some citizens in the camp and the armed elements' occupation of the office of the Palestine Liberation Front. Brother Abu Ziyad was martyred and some other members of the Palestine Liberation Front were injured while defending the camp and repulsing the offensive of the Palestine right under 'Arafat.

ARAB GROUP AT BELGRADE DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST

LD281205Y Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 28 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpts] Belgrade--Interviewed by the Belgrade correspondent of "PARIS ELEMENTS" regarding the work of the Belgrade conference, the Sahara question and the activities of the Arab group, the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, M'hamed Boucetta, said the conference is proceeding normally and that various questions were dealt with, the agenda was adopted, the general debates were continuing, and the committees were meeting.

Question: Mr Minister, there have been informal consultations at the Belgrade conference among various Arab countries. Do you think the Arabs should be able to find a certain unity of action regarding the settlement of the Middle East crisis?

Answer: Since last November, that is, since the misunderstanding created in the Arab world by President as-Sadat's initiative and the setting up of what is called the rejection front, the novelty here in Belgrade is that certain parties which had not been present at the Arab League meetings either in Cairo or elsewhere, even at the February ordinary meeting, have resumed their seats today, and we have witnessed the presence of the Arab group in its entirety. Debates are continuing within the group in its entirety to find a formula which should be backed by the nonalined movement regarding the problems of Palestine and the Middle East. I am convinced that a general formula will be produced by this meeting.

FATAH'S ABU SALIH CITED ON UNITY PROGRAM

JN2711022Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0912 GMT 27 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 27 July--The Fatah movement has formed a committee to carry out dialog with the rejectionist organizations. It has been agreed that Fatah will submit a program for national unity which will guarantee collective leadership on all levels of Palestinian action.

This was contained in a statement by Abu Salih, member of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah, and official in charge of Fatah's military wing, Al-'Asifah. He stated that the fedayeen organizations are on their way toward national unity achieved through democratic dialog and without dispute.

On the Palestinian revolution's relations with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, Abu Salih said in his statement to the Kuwait newspaper AL-WATAN, published today, that the Palestinian revolution settles all problems with these forces through dialog. He stressed that no one is preventing supplies from reaching Palestinian forces and that the Palestinian resistance will not permit the UNIFIL forces to encircle or strike at the Palestinian forces.

He warned against agents who are working to make the Palestinian resistance fight the UNIFIL with the aim of involving the revolution. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution will confront the conspiracy aimed at liquidating the Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

He pointed out that the Palestinian revolution adheres to the resolutions of the front of steadfastness and confrontation. Abu Salih added that the Palestinian revolution rejected an offer to meet with Jordan's King Husayn because he refused to join that front.

The Palestinian leader stated that the series of assassinations against Palestinian leaders is a U.S. plan drawn up a year ago. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution is determined to foil this plan.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN COMPANIES REQUIRED TO BUY LOCAL SAUDI GOODS

LD3111154Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 31 July--The Ministry of Commerce has drawn the attention of foreign companies operating in the kingdom to the need to obtain their requirements for consumer goods and necessary foodstuffs for their staff from the local market in accordance with Decree No 291 issued by the Council of Ministers.

This was stated by an authoritative source at the ministry. He said that some companies are importing these requirements directly from abroad. He added that if some of the goods and commodities needed are not available locally, these companies should contact a Saudi importer to obtain them through him. The source stated that the ministry has requested the Customs Department to instruct all sea, land and air entry points to refuse entry to consumer goods and foodstuffs imported by foreign companies operated in the kingdom.

UAE

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM NONALINED CONFERENCE

JN010802Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0640 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 1 August--Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the members of his delegation returned home early this morning after attending the nonalined foreign ministers conference which concluded its work in Belgrade last Sunday.

AL-FAJR COMMENTS ON SECRETARY VANCE'S COMING MIDEAST TOUR

JN010806Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0645 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 August--The newspaper AL-FAJR comments on Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's tour of the Middle East which begins next week. The paper says: We can almost say that this tour, which U.S. sources have described as the last attempt to solve the Middle East question, does not concern us. This is because the United States has confined itself to the role of the mediator who tries to bring viewpoints closer instead of playing the role of the partner who is concerned about the maintenance of security in this area.

AL-FAJR adds: This U.S. role will not change and will not have a positive effect except in the presence of Arab solidarity, which will make the United States feel that its interests will suffer if it does not play the required role concerning the Arab's just cause.

YEMEN--PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD RECEIVES SOCIALIST AMBASSADORS

LD311634Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and the Council of Ministers, received in his office this afternoon the heads of the diplomatic missions of the socialist countries accredited to Aden. During the meeting the brother chairman briefed them on the latest developments and the feverish activities of reactionary and imperialist forces to heighten the state of tension in the country. He affirmed the steadfast position of Democratic Yemen which has been reiterated several times before in statements by the leadership of the party and state. Democratic Yemen has no interest in plunging the Yemeni people into a war which would benefit no one except the traditional enemies of the unity, progress and stability of the Yemeni people and the peoples of other regions.

In his talk with the heads of diplomatic missions of the socialist countries, the chairman referred to the suspect moves of imperialist and reactionary forces aimed at creating tension in the Red Sea area. He affirmed that while Democratic Yemen stresses the security and stability of the area, it is also keenly interested in its safety. Democratic Yemen is capable of defending its inviolate territory and its national sovereignty.

The brother chairman hailed the development of cooperation and friendship between Democratic Yemen and all socialist countries. He expressed his appreciation for the solidarity of the socialist countries with Democratic Yemen and the other Arab countries in their struggle to maintain their national independence and for their support of the national and pan-Arab issues of the Arab countries.

The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of the Soviet Union, the GDR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Republic of Cuba, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

MUHAMMAD DENIES PRESENCE OF FOREIGN BASES

JN311301Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 31 July--Chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has denied the presence of any foreign bases in his country. In a statement published here today, he said that all this kind of talk is part of the hostile campaigns against the PDRY.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT SALIH PRAISES RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA

LD311426Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Text] San'a', 31 July--YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has praised the fraternal relations that link Saudi Arabia and the YAR. He described these relations as very strong and excellent. He said that Saudi Arabia's attitudes toward the YAR are honorable and because of this Saudi Arabia is participating in the implementation of numerous YAR development projects. Furthermore, coordination between the two countries is proceeding in earnest in the interest of the two fraternal peoples.

In a special statement to the SNA correspondent in San'a', the YAR president affirmed his country's support for the efforts to achieve Arab solidarity in its various forms, since the current circumstances make it imperative for everyone to forget their differences and close ranks for the sake of the Palestinian issue and the fateful Arab questions.

Concerning the assassination of the late YAR president, Ahmad al-Ghashmi, Ali 'Abdallah Salih said that this crime was aimed at implementing a conspiracy against the peoples of the area. He said that the ability of the Yemeni people to overcome this crisis resulted from their desire to safeguard their gains and from their awareness of the dimensions of this bloody conspiracy.

SALIH RECEIVES LETTERS FROM TUNISIAN, ALGERIAN PRESIDENTS

JN291810Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received in his office today brother Hammud Baydar, YAR ambassador to Algeria, who conveyed to the president two letters from Houari Boumediene, president of Algeria, and Habib Bourguiba, president of Tunisia. The letters are in reply to the letters addressed to the two presidents by their brother President Salih and conveyed by the ambassador.

SALIH RECEIVES CABLE FROM HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT LOSONCZI

JN291313Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has received the following cable:

His Excellency Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR:

On the occasion of your assumption of the YAR presidency, I would like to congratulate you on behalf of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic and in my name.

[Signed] Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic.

SAUDI PRINCE SA'UD, ARAB LEAGUE'S RIYAD MEET WITH KAMIL

NC311424Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1353 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 31 July--At 1300 a meeting was held in the R'as at-Tin Palace in Alexandria between Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad, Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. The meeting lasted 50 minutes.

Mahmud Riyad arrived in Alexandria to meet His Highness Prince Fahd, the Saudi crown prince.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE FAHD LEAVES FOR DAMASCUS

NC311421Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1343 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 31 July--Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Alexandria today for Damascus at the end of his 2-day visit to Egypt.

President Anwar as-Sadat said goodby to Prince Fahd at Ra's at-Tin Palace in Alexandria at the conclusion of their talks today. Prince Fahd, accompanied by Vice President Husni Mubarak, then flew by helicopter to Janaklis airport, where the great Saudi guest was given an official sendoff.

As-Sadat on Talks

NC311434Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1352 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 31 July--The talks between President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz were resumed at 1145 today. The first session of the talks was held last night.

At the conclusion of his 3-hour talks with Prince Fahd, President Anwar as-Sadat said that they had thorough and detailed discussions on the Middle East situation and the latest developments. He added that he gave Prince Fahd a full picture of the results of his recent visit to Austria and his talks in Vienna and Salzburg, and that Prince Fahd briefed the president on the results of his visit to Europe and his talks with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

President as-Sadat also said that they also discussed the situation in the south of the Arabian Peninsula, the Horn of Africa, South Yemen, Somalia and Africa in general.

President as-Sadat praised the strong relations between Saudi Arabia and Egypt. He said: "We always agree and are always in contact. I can even say that, in reference to the recent stage, having visited Saudi Arabia and then Egypt, Atherton, I believe, can attest that we say the same thing here and there without prior agreement."

Asked whether Prince Fahd's visit and talks with the president had anything to do with the holding of a limited or expanded summit conference, President as-Sadat said: "You can speculate as you like."

The talks between President as-Sadat and Prince Fahd ended at 1435, lasting for 2 hours and 50 minutes.

President as-Sadat bade the Saudi crown prince farewell at Ra's at-Tin Palace, after which Prince Fahd proceeded to Janaklis airport and from there departed for Damascus.

Prince Fahd Sends Cable

NC311737Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 31 July--Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today sent the following cable to President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat as he was about to leave the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Your Excellency, brother President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

While leaving the Arab Republic of Egypt, it pleases me to express to you my gratitude and appreciation for the good hospitality and warm reception that we always receive whenever we have the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the causes of our nation, in whose justice the whole world believes.

I ask Almighty God to enable us and our brothers to solidify our ranks so that we may achieve affluence and happiness not only for our nation but also for all those who wish peace and security for mankind.

I wish Your Excellency good health and happiness and for the fraternal people of Egypt constant dignity and pride under your wise leadership. May God grant victory to all of us.

As-Sadat Sends Reply Cable

NC312112Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 31 July--President Anwar as-Sadat has emphasized that the fruitful talks which were held between him and Saudi Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz are considered an effective contribution toward strengthening Arab solidarity, which must be founded on a solid base, the mainstay of which is the unity of ranks for the sake of achieving the great hopes of the Arab people.

This was contained in a cable of thanks which President as-Sadat has sent to Crown Prince Fahd in reply to the cable which Crown Prince Fahd sent to the president following his departure from Alexandria today.

The following is the text of the cable:

Your Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz:

I have received with appreciation the kind cable which you have sent me following your departure from your second homeland. I thank you for the noble feelings and sincere wishes you have expressed toward me and the Egyptian people.

The fruitful talks which which were held between us in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete understanding are a landmark along the path of the policy of consultation and the dialog that exists between me and my brother His Majesty King Khalid. They are also considered an effective contribution toward strengthening Arab solidarity, which must be founded on a solid base, the mainstay of which is the unity of ranks for the sake of achieving the great hopes of the Arab people.

Please accept my sincerest greetings to Your Highness, and I wish the people of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia all progress and prosperity under the leadership of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

MINISTER OF STATE GHALI RETURNS FROM BELGRADE

NC3121315Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this evening from Belgrade, where they attended the nonalined foreign ministers conference. Dr Ghali said on arrival that he will submit a comprehensive report to President Anwar as-Sadat on the results of the nonalined foreign ministers conference and the Egyptian delegation's contacts with the foreign ministers who attended the conference.

The Sudanese delegation headed by Vice President ar-Rashid at-Tahir arrived aboard the same plane. After spending 1 hour at Cairo airport the Sudanese delegation left for Khartoum. Ar-Rashid at-Tahir, in a statement to the radio correspondent, praised the conference resolutions which centered on the combat of imperialism, the liberation of territory, support for the liberation movements against Zionism and imperialism, and the need to maintain the nonalined movement. He also commended the conference for the role it played regarding the Arab cause. He said we look forward to another meeting which would include all the foreign ministers to review the developments at this stage in the life of the Arab nation, and we hope it will pave the way for a higher meeting.

MENA: CARTER HOLDING CONSULTATIONS ON MIDEAST

NC3118302Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1810 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 31 July--U.S. President Jimmy Carter is holding intensive consultations with high-level advisers in an attempt to salvage the peace efforts currently deadlocked by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's intransigence and his refusal to withdraw from the occupied territories.

The MENA correspondent has learned from reliable sources in the U.S. capital that these consultations have been continuing since President Anwar as-Sadat announced, in the wake of his meeting with U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton, that there will be no further talks with Israel until the latter announces its readiness to withdraw from all the territories occupied in 1967.

U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, the President's Adviser for National Security Affairs Zbigniew Brzezinski and Secretary of Defense Harold Brown are taking part in these consultations.

U.S. officials have expressed concern in view of the fact that the possibilities for another meeting between Egypt and Israel look slim at present. There are speculations that Vance may not visit the Middle East at the end of the week in view of the recent developments in the situation in the area.

In any case officials in Washington have avoided any comment on the situation until President Carter returns from Camp David this morning--1800 Cairo time.

President Carter was scheduled to return to the White House yesterday afternoon. However, the recent developments have prompted him to prolong his stay at Camp David in order to hold consultations with his aides on how to handle the situation.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the U.S. State Department will issue a statement on the Middle East situation at 1800 Cairo time today.

MENA: VANCE TO BRING LETTER FROM CARTER

NC312244Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 31 July--The MENA correspondent in Washington has learned that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, during his coming trip to the Middle East at the beginning of next week, will carry with him a private letter from U.S. President Carter for President Anwar as-Sadat dealing with the peace process in the Middle East.

Informed U.S. sources say that the United States still hopes that matters will improve, leading to the resumption of contacts between the parties. The United States also believes that the time is not yet appropriate for presenting U.S. proposals. These sources believe that the proposals might be submitted during the course of direct negotiations in the presence of the United States and in the event the United States becomes convinced that the talks have reached a dead end.

These sources say that Washington does not want Egypt to adopt the same attitude which was adopted by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin last summer, when he said that Israel does not agree to any negotiations on the West Bank. The United States still insists that the peace talks must be based on Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories on all fronts.

Washington believes that the parties should not lay down prior conditions before starting the talks. The sources pointed out that Vance's trip to Jerusalem and Cairo will be aimed at getting acquainted with the situation directly from the officials concerned, which will enable him to decide on the next step he will take.

AL-AHRAM RESPONDS TO ISRAELI COMMENT ON AS-SADAT

NC010852Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the heading "Reply to Israeli Comment," AL-AHRAM refutes the lies that have been reiterated by Israel, affirms that Egypt is still seeking a just solution and welcomes neighborly relations and security guarantees. The paper, however, strongly rejects any violation of territory or sovereignty.

AL-AHRAM says: After 2 days of silence, the Israeli officials yesterday--in their first official comment on President Anwar as-Sadat's recent statements--said that As-Sadat, by refusing to maintain direct contacts between Egypt and Israel, really wants to end his initiative. The officials add: But at the same time, As-Sadat wants to have the bell around the neck of the Israeli position by accusing the Israeli prime minister of being the reason behind the failure of the settlement efforts. The officials add: It appears that Egypt is no longer capable of facing its Arab world. As-Sadat has thus withdrawn his initiative, or is about to do so, and is searching for any excuses in the Israeli position.

AL-AHRAM adds: The entire world now knows the reality of the Israeli position. It also knows that no matter how skillful the Israelis are in their propaganda warfare, they will never be able to change anything in the realities of the situation. The realities of the situation are:

1. Egypt still upholds its position on the need to seek a just solution in the Middle East and says with complete clarity "yes" to neighborly relations, "yes" to security guarantees, "yes" to recognition and normal relations; but at the same time, Egypt says "one thousand no's" to any violation of territory or sovereignty.

2. Egypt does not reject direct negotiations and does not fear direct contacts. Egypt's basic position is that it will continue to have an open mind and heart for any new elements in the Israeli position.

3. The world now has every justification to be convinced of the arrogance of the position of Begin and his government. It is enough to mention the fears which Yig'al Allon expressed at the recent Knesset deliberations when he said that international support for Israel has been corroded, as has the support of the Jewish community in America.

4. Egypt has not surprised the world with any new position. Egypt's line has been clear ever since President as-Sadat's speech at the Knesset--the speech in which he clearly and unequivocally defined Egypt's peace strategy.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING POSTPONED

NC311302Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 31 July--A decision has been made to postpone the meeting of the National Security Council, which was scheduled to be convened in the Ra's at-Tin Palace in Alexandria this afternoon, to a session to be held in Al-Ma'murah at noon tomorrow.

The National Security Council session is being postponed because the discussions between President Anwar as-Sadat and His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, have lasted some 3 hours.

INVESTIGATION OF REPORTER HUSAYN FAHMI BEGINS

NC291302Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 29 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 July--An investigation of AKHBAR AL-YAWM reporter Husayn Fahmi began today. The investigation deals with articles detrimental to Egypt's prestige published in an Arab paper and attributed to Mr Fahmi.

The investigation was attended by lawyers Dr Yahya al-Jamal and Shihatah Harun. It was also attended by a member of the Journalists Union Council, Jamal Hamdi.

EMBASSY ATTACK BLAMED ON SYRIA, PLO

JN311700Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Paris, 31 July--Iraqi Embassy officials took control inside the embassy. They killed one of the terrorists and arrested two others.

The Iraqi officials took control of the situation following long hours of patience and endurance in the hope that these agents would come to their senses. The officials carried out a daring operation in which they took control of the situation, saved the hostages, killed one of the agents and arrested two others.

The action of these agents--who adhere to the reactionary and defeatist leadership, the PLO--was carried out in coordination with the intelligence of the treacherous regime in Damascus.

These agents exploited the fact that they are Palestinian to enter the embassy, which, like all other Iraqi embassies, fraternally welcomes any honest Palestinian or other Arab without reservations. This cowardly behavior reflects the baseness reached by the capitulatory PLO leadership who is ready to sell Palestine at the cheapest price. This is the only explanation for their cowardly methods against honest strugglers who cling to the honor of Arabism and the right of the Arab nation in Palestine.

IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO UK RETURNS TO BAGHDAD

JN311037Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 July--Taha Ahmad ad-Dawudi, the Iraqi ambassador to Britain, returned here at dawn today after completing his term of office. The ambassador told INA that the British media made false allegations against Iraq after every incident there. He added that the bomb incident involving his car shows that Iraqi citizens are the targets of such incidents.

Ambassador Dawudi also said that the British police have not been able to arrest three Arab youths and a Lebanese girl who were involved in the incident in which a bomb was thrown at his car.

BAGHDAD CITES BRITISH PAPER ON CAMPAIGN AGAINST IRAQ

JN311840Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] London--The newspaper NEWSLINE [as heard] today writes that the British Government's grudge against, and fear of, the Arab revolution is now being expressed in the wicked campaign to defame the name of Iraq and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The paper, organ of the British Revolutionary Labor Party, said that the information campaign of the rightist British information media against Iraqi diplomats and civilians reached its peak in Britain's decision to expel the Iraqi nationals.

The paper added: It was indeed terrorists who attacked the Iraqi ambassador in London, encouraged by the information campaign against Iraq and the British Foreign Office's failure to provide protection for the Iraqi Embassy. It pointed out that the reason for this campaign is Iraq's firm stand toward Zionism and colonialism and against the settlement plans in the Arab region.

The paper asks how the British foreign secretary can make his allegations about terrorism at a time when he allows the presence of the Zionist-American intelligence spies in Britain.

ERITREAN POPULAR FRONT DELEGATION LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN311032Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 July--The delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea headed by Ramadan Muhammad Nur, secretary general of the front, left Baghdad this morning. Nur said his visit to Iraq is part of a tour of the Arab area for talks on the situation obtaining in the Eritrean revolution.

Nur said his meeting with Tariq 'Aziz, member of the National Command of the Arab Solidarity Ba'th Party, stressed that the political leadership in Iraq understands the phase the Eritrean revolution is passing through.

IRAQI-ROMANIAN JOINT COMMISSION MEETS IN BAGHDAD

JN311539Y Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 July--The Iraqi-Romanian joint commission on trade, economic and technical cooperation resumed meetings here today.

Four subcommittees began discussing cooperation between the two countries in fields of oil, industry, agriculture and irrigation and technical cooperation. The two sides agreed that Romania is to build in Iraq soya bean and carp fish farms as well as a number of other agricultural projects.

In the oil field, agreement was reached on participation of Romanian establishments in implementing a number of oil projects in Iraq, exchange of technical expertise, employment of Romanian experts by Iraq and training Iraqi technical cadres in Romania.

The Iraqi side to the talks was led by Mr. Mahdi Muhsin 'Awdah, under-secretary of the Trade Ministry and included representatives of the Ministries of Trade, Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Industry and Minerals, Housing and Construction, Finance, Oil, Irrigation, Planning and Foreign Affairs.

The Romanian side was led by first deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation and included representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

The Iraqi-Romanian joint commission started meeting here yesterday.

ENVOY RETURNS FROM YAR, PDRY, SAUDI ARABIA TOUR

JN261738Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1723 GMT 26 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 July--'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and planning minister, and envoy of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn, returned here this evening from a visit to the YAR, the PDRY and Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to INA, Husayn stated that he delivered messages from President al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn to officials of the YAR, the PDRY and Saudi Arabia. He stated that he also held talks with these officials and exchanged views on the current situation in the Arabian Peninsula.

He stated that the officials he met with had expressed their appreciation of Iraq's role and its pan-Arab stands in dealing with the Arab nation's issues. They also expressed their desire to see Iraq continue to hold such stands.

SADDAM HUSAYN VISITS PUBLIC SECURITY DIRECTORATE

JN301510Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 July--Saddam Husayn, the vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, today visited the Public Security Directorate. He was accompanied on this visit by 'Izzat Ibrahim, member of the Revolution Command Council and interior minister, and Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Revolution Command Council and general intelligence chief.

Addressing the employees of the Public Security Directorate, Saddam Husayn emphasized that their conduct must be based on respect for the freedom of the individual as long as the individual respects the revolution's freedom in adopting its policy.

Saddam Husayn explained that every Iraqi citizen must understand that the Security Department and other special branches are here to see that his freedom is not violated. They are not the type of departments which function at the expense of public liberties.

Saddam Husayn said that the task of the special branches is to investigate the truth about the behavior of the citizens. Personal considerations must not interfere with the principled and objective assessments of these branches.

IRAQ ABROGATES REHABILITATION LAW OF 1967

JN301806Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] The Revolution Command Council has decided to abrogate the amended Rehabilitation Law No 3 of 1967 and Articles 342-351 of the amended Penal Law No 23 of 1971. It has also decided to abrogate every provision wherever it occurs in laws and regulations that stipulates the convicted shall be rehabilitated in order to regain his rights and privileges.

IRAQ, KUWAIT SIGN AGREEMENT ON TRADE

JN271929Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 27 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 July--Iraqi and Kuwaiti experts signed here this evening joint minutes on cooperation in trade, customs and transit between the two countries. The joint minutes stress the importance of stimulating trade and increasing exports between the two fraternal countries.

The two sides agreed to exchange visits, organize work at trade centers in the two countries, participate in international fairs, promote each other's commodities and goods, and hold an Iraqi industrial fair in Kuwait next February.

In the areas of transportation and transit, the two sides expressed their willingness to provide the necessary facilities for the passage of imported goods from either of the two countries in transit through the territory of the other.

INA: 200 SYRIAN OFFICERS DISMISSED BY AL-ASAD

JN271813Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 27 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 27 July--Hafiz al-Asad, head of the Syrian regime, has dismissed 200 officers from service in the Syrian Army. Some of these were transferred to civilian jobs. Al-Asad has issued another order whereby he carried out basic changes affecting all officers in the air force and air defense commands.

Voice of Arab Syria reported that Hafiz al-Asad decided to dismiss these officers following information he received from foreign intelligence services. These reports state that the attitude of these officers is not reassuring to the Syrian regime and does not support its policemen regarding Lebanon, the Palestinian cause and the occupied Syrian territories.

The Voice of Arab Syria noted that Hafiz al-Asad's decision has weakened the Syrian Arab Army at a time when Syria is in dire need of a military power capable of liberating our occupied territories and protecting Syria from continuous enemy threats.

BODIES OF TWO PALESTINIANS KILLED IN LIBYA ARRIVE

JN272050Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 July--The bodies of martyrs Ahmad Hassan and 'Imad ash-Shaykh, who were assassinated by rightist Palestinian elements in Tripoli, Libya, last Thursday, arrived in Baghdad tonight. Present at the Baghdad airport to receive the bodies were a number of members of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau in the Ba'th Party National Command, members of the Political Committee of the Palestinian revolution [in Iraq] and representatives of Arab liberation movements in Iraq.

U.S. DRUG MANUFACTURERS TO BE BOYCOTTED

JN221703Y Baghdad INA in English 1640 GMT 22 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 July--Iraq has decided to stop the importation of American-manufactured drugs.

A decision to this effect has adopted by the State Organization for Drugs (SOD) at a meeting of its board held here today under the chairmanship of Health Minister Dr. Riyad Ibrahim Husayn.

The decision comes in response to the American drug-manufacturing companies which recently refused to comply with the decisions of the Arab Boycott of Israel and [which] abide by American Government's anti-boycott laws.

The SOD also decided to import alternatives for the American manufactured drugs from friendly and international companies abiding by the rules of the Arab Boycott.

The Iraqi Health Ministry and pharmacists and doctors associations will cooperate in compiling a periodical bulletin containing lists of alternatives for the American manufactured drugs.

Earlier, Iraq urged the Executive Bureau of the Council of Arab Health Ministers and the Council of Arab Gulf Health Ministers to give priority to countering the American anti-boycott measures and take a unified Arab stance on this question.

BRIEFS

NEW IRANIAN AMBASSADOR--Baghdad, 26 July--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr today received the credentials of Dr Fereydun (Zindafrid), new Iranian ambassador in Iraq. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Jul 78 JN]

AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE--Baghdad, 24 July--Nuri al-Wayis, Iraqi designate ambassador to France, left for Paris this morning to assume his post there. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN]

PRESIDENT SARKIS DELIVERS ARMY DAY SPEECH

NC011153Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1037 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text of 1 August speech delivered by President Ilyas Sarkis at the celebration held at the Defense Ministry building on the occasion of Army Day--recorded]

[Text] O soldiers: I wish we were able to celebrate Army Day this year as we used to do every year before the events and at the usual place where your ranks meet and your swords cross for the sake of Lebanon and its sovereignty. I wish this and I greatly hope that we will soon return to that day because the national will and the military spirit on which you were brought up will insure this.

I am meeting you on this national occasion when the homeland's eager and hopeful attention is focused on you and following your every step as if every day is Army Day. This longing is the best expression of what the country expects from its nascent army after the ordeals and wounds this country has suffered. The hopes pinned on you are an expression of the will of an ancient people to continue to live and of their determination that this life be free, dignified and proud. [applause] One of the conditions for the continuation of a free, dignified and proud life is the ability to maintain this life. This ability is primarily embodied today in the institution of the army you are building. You are one of the pillars of the future and a main foundation for a better future. You have taken auspicious steps so far due to a wise and vigilant command, which has been and still is up to the level of the events and responsibility and is worthy of admiration and praise.

The vigilant silence with which you confronted the attempts to stir doubt and mislead gives rise to optimism that the procession is going well. This silence indicates a great self-confidence and an unshakeable faith in Lebanon. No matter how great the challenges, Lebanon will continue to become greater and bigger. [applause]

O soldiers, one of the things on which Lebanon prides itself is its glorious past, which is embellished by genuine values. One of the primary duties of the state is to safeguard these values. When you contribute to the rebuilding of the state and bear up under the difficulties involved in defending it, you are actually defending the homeland, its sovereignty, pride, dignity, freedom, independence and humanitarian values. It is a sin to violate these values, which are a source of man's pride. This is why the trust assigned to you is dear and precious. There can be no state without an army and no army without a state. You are the protective shield of these values and they are your loyal shelter.

The revered heritage which Lebanon represents is threatened by various dangers. It is a sufficient source of pride to you to be assigned the task of averting these dangers. It is not right that the edifice which the soldiers built with the sweat of their brows and protected with their blood and hearts should crack. It is a sufficient source of pride to you that you are the firm and steadfast support of this edifice. It is a sufficient source of pride for you that the institution to which you belong represents a small part of the overall beautiful picture of Lebanon. This institution is a crucible in which the Lebanese capacities are fused in a blessed national unity and it creatively interacts with the feelings of the Lebanese and reflects their true fraternity.

We are confident that the Lebanese Army soon again will become an example of discipline and military qualities and a school of true patriotism. The state is determined to supply its army with all its needs. It will not deny the army anything that is required to modernize its equipment and improve the standard of its components. On the occasion of the entry of a contingent of the nascent army into the south, it pleases me to hail the officers and men of this force. This first step is just the beginning of the more comprehensive national role which the army will perform in all parts of the country to fully and clearly restore national sovereignty over every inch of Lebanon--the one Lebanon for one flag, one army and one sublime interest. It is the dictates of this sublime interest, of the high values in which I believe, and of my conscience which inspire my steps, stands and actions in the service of Lebanon. Long live Lebanon! [applause]

VOICE OF LEBANON: SYRIAN FORCES OPEN FIRE ON EASTERN BEIRUT

NC3116502 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] The security situation deteriorated in Al-Ashrafiyah, Al-Karantinah and Furn ash-Shubbak this afternoon. At 1700 a number of RPG's fell on the Al-Karantinah bridge, which is considered the eastern entrance to the capital. This was followed by an attempt by a Syrian tank stationed near Bata to cross the bridge. However, the driver of the tank swerved to the right and the tank overturned near the bridge. Afterward, the Syrian forces directed artillery fire on the Al-Badawi area, wounding a number of innocent citizens. It is not known yet if there are any dead.

In Al-Ashrafiyah a number of rounds fell near the central office of the National Liberal Party and the AL-BAYRAQ newspaper building; one round hit the AL-BAYRAQ building. In Furn ash-Shubbak rockets fell near the Scala movie theater causing material damage. At 1900 the Syrian forces directed artillery fire on the 'Ayn ar-Rummanah area; Three rounds fell near the post office. Syrian artillery also shelled the quarters of the flour mills, Mar Marun and [name indistinct]. There is continuous sniping in the area now.

The deterioration in the security situation led to a halt in traffic on a number of roads, particularly on the eastern entrance to Beirut, where there is still sniper fire and intermittent shelling. There was relative calm in the morning. However, the calm was not enough for activity to resume at Beirut Port.

ARAB DETERRENT FORCES ON SECURITY SITUATION 31 JULY

NC3118102 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] A responsible source in the command of the Arab Deterrent Forces made the following statement: The security situation was generally good today. Only two incidents disturbed it. The first occurred at 0730 when several shots were fired at the port and the surrounding area. As a result of this, work was not resumed in the port today.

The second incident occurred at 1700 on the Cornish an-Nahr, when a supply vehicle belonging to the Arab Deterrent Forces came under fire. The elements accompanying this vehicle returned the fire and silenced its source. However, one of their trucks broke down and remained on the main road. When the Arab Deterrent Forces tried to tow the truck away, fire was once more directed against them to prevent them from removing the damaged truck. This led the elements in this force to use their weapons to complete their mission.

VOICE OF LEBANON BLAMES SYRIANS FOR RECENT INCIDENTS

NC010648Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Some signs of security relaxation were apparent in the capital and suburbs this morning. Traffic has resumed in the areas which experienced clashes during the night, particularly at Beirut's eastern entrance.

Heavy shelling of the Al-Badawi, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Furn ash-Shubbak and Al-Hadath areas began yesterday evening and continued into the night. The shelling began when two Syrian trucks and one armored car were en route to Al-Karantinah. A clash occurred and a number of persons were killed or wounded.

An informed source said after midnight that the Syrian escalation comes at a time when the operation to deploy the Lebanese Army in the south is encountering difficulties, and only a short time before Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's possible arrival in Beirut.

The new security setback reveals that the security measures adopted by the authorities in the wake of the recent events will remain tenuous as long as the Syrian forces do not comply with the measure concerning them. These measures provide for the Syrians to withdraw from the eastern area and divest their positions in the capital of heavy weapons and rocket launchers.

The aggression of the past 13 hours resulted in about 50 persons being killed or wounded, according to reports obtained from hospitals and first aid centers. The Syrian forces' attempt to advance westward in the direction of Al-Badawi and northward in the direction of Jisr al-Karantinah has resulted in three Syrian BTR trucks and one tank being damaged. The damaged vehicles were towed away during the night after political contacts had taken place between the Syrian and the Lebanese sides.

BEIRUT RADIO ON SITUATION IN BEIRUT, 1 AUGUST

NC010649Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] On the security level, the situation in the capital this morning was calm but cautious in the areas which experienced limited clashes and tension last night. More efforts will be exerted today to restore security and pacify the situation so that vital departments may resume their activities, particularly the port.

LEBANESE FORCES UNIFIED COMMAND HOLDS MEETING

NC311701Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] The Unified Command of the Lebanese Forces held a meeting under Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil this evening. The discussion centered on the security situation in the capital and its suburbs and on current developments in the south.

After the meeting a spokesman for the Unified Command said that Syria's stand aims at disturbing the calm and obstructing the return of normal life to the various sectors in Lebanon. The spokesman added that the Syrian forces have deliberately exacerbated the situation by provoking some incidents in the capital and its suburbs.

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES ARMY RETURN TO SOUTH

NC311215Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] At 1000 President Sarkis received leading economists and the general labor association leaders in the presence of Prime Minister Salim al-Huss. At 1030 President Sarkis met with Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and the deputy prime minister and the minister of foreign affairs and defense, Fu'ad Butrus. At 1230 the minister of industry, petroleum and agriculture, Michel Dumit, joined the meeting.

After the meeting Prime Minister al-Huss made the following statement:

In the first meeting an assessment was made of the economic situation in the light of present circumstances. An exchange of views was also held concerning the measures which might be taken to reactivate state utilities.

The second meeting concentrated basically on assessing the step which was taken this morning concerning the movement of Lebanese Army units to the south. We followed the progress of this operation. I want to say at this juncture that this is a blessed step and that we hope it will lead the way to other steps to restore life to normal in the country.

Asked about the border officers--whether they had been recalled and whether an order had been issued to this effect--Prime Minister al-Huss said: Yes, the order was issued upon the arrival of the units which were dispatched to the south in the operations area which is the responsibility of the UNIFIL forces.

Asked whether he has been informed about the border officers' agreement to report to the defense minister, Prime Minister al-Huss replied: We are speaking about matters which concern us.

The army command had previously issued a memorandum to the border officers in which it placed them under the jurisdiction of the defense minister. Today, upon the arrival of the Lebanese military units in the UNIFIL operations area in the south, the army command sent a cable confirming its previous memorandum to the officers concerned.

Army's Early Progress

NC311137Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Lt Col Adib Sa'd, the commander of the units that have gone to the south, said in Kawkabah that the forces have now implemented the first part of the first stage of the task entrusted to them. The forces are scheduled to continue their advance later.

The military units were welcomed by triumphal arches which have been erected along their entire route. There were also placards welcoming the army's entry into the south.

Indeed, the forces of the Lebanese Army were welcomed by the citizens. In his dispatch today, the correspondent of the midday journal in AL-BIQA' said: Huge crowds came out from Al-Biqa' villages to the main streets this morning where they arranged tumultuous receptions for the units of the Lebanese Army heading for the south. The units have come from the barracks in Ablah, passing through Al-Jurzul road, Zahalah, Shtawrah, Barr Ilyas, and Al-Masna'; turning south to At-Tawilah, Al-Manarah, and Bayadir al-'Adas in western Al-Biqa'; then to Al-Hasbani, Kawkabah, Marj 'Uyun, and the border road to Tibnin.

The army unit is composed of 650 troops and is commanded by Lt Col Adib Sa'd, the commander of the southern front. He will be assisted by Maj Ibrahim Shahin, the commander of the First Infantry Battalion [fawj]. The force is composed of an infantry unit reinforced by an artillery company, an armored company, an infantry company, an engineering detachment and a signal detachment.

A formation of three big convoys, preceded by the engineering detachment and circled over by two jets of the Lebanese Air Force from Riyad Air Base, started from Ablah barracks for the southern area at 0600 today. The formation was supervised by the military commander of Al-Biqa' area, Lt Col Michel Khuri.

The popular demonstrations which welcomed the convoys attracted attention in all areas. Triumphant arches and placards were erected across the streets welcoming the return and deployment of the Lebanese Army throughout Lebanon.

At the entrance of the township of Zahlah, the inhabitants gathered on both sides of the road greeting the soldiers. On the international highway between Shtawrah and Al-Masna', traffic came to a standstill and the convoys were received with applause.

There was an emotional scene in At-Tawilah township when the inhabitants stopped the convoy and embraced the soldiers. In the Al-Manarah township, the citizens showered the convoys with flowers and rice.

ISRAEL REPORTS ON LEBANESE FORCES ADVANCE SOUTH

TA311201Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Excerpt] A UN source told our correspondent Allan Ben-'Ami that the Lebanese vanguard numbers 600 men. Its nickname is the unit of the southern front and its personnel have already come into contact with the UN officers in Kawkaba, north of Marj 'Uyun.

Details on Military Situation

TA311202Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Fears, tension and alert [are the situation] among the forces of the militia, the Phalangists and the United Nations in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, reports from the northern border: [begin recording]

Intermittent heavy explosions have been heard for hours now in the region north of Marj 'Uyun in the southern part of Lebanon's valley and in the zone separating the Norwegian UN units and the terrorists. Phalangists told me that these are artillery volleys they were asked to fire intermittently as warning shots in order to drive home to the military force moving southward that the villagers in the region are resolved to prevent the entry of the foreign forces into the south. The Phalangists and the militiamen have no doubt that the force in question is a Syrian force disguised as a unit of the apparently restored Lebanese Army.

The Christian forces in the south are on supreme alert. They have manned all their strongholds along the Christian enclaves they control this morning. The Phalangists disclosed to me that the instructions they had received are clear-cut: To prevent, at all costs, the entry of the force moving southward into the areas controlled by the Christians. We will resolutely fight to the very last man, the Christian soldiers told me.

We will not let the Syrians trick us and evict us from the last areas left in our hands. We will not let them carry out here the massacre they carried out against our people in Beirut. We will face them until the very last man, the very last bullet, the Phalangists and militiamen threatened.

Well then, the atmosphere is very tense and new events are expected here. The main question is, of course, whether the Lebanese forces which are moving southward will also try to enter the enclaves controlled by the Christians despite the latters' threats and warning fire. It is assessed in the north that at the present stage the forces moving southward will avoid entering the Christian-controlled enclaves, also for fear of a direct confrontation with Israel. Therefore, it is assumed that the forces will be deployed in the regions outside the enclaves.

There is no doubt that the reports flowing to the south from Beirut also contributed to the high tension, reports about the intention to cut off Majors Sa'd Haddad and Sami Shidyaq from any military involvement in the south and to put them on trial. This shall not happen, I was told by the men of both majors. Anyone who tries to hurt these two commanders declares war against all of us. They have been and are our supreme commanders, the Phalangists declared. At any rate, both Haddad and Shidyaq, according to their men, are staying at their headquarters today, one at his headquarters in [Maskana] in Al-Qulay'ah approaches and the other at 'Ayn Ibil.

The tension in southern Lebanon today also is clearly felt among the UN units in the region. They fear that bloody clashes may break out between the militias and the Phalangists and the soldiers of the Lebanese force, clashes that may lead to a general conflagration in the region. Senior commanders of the UN units toured the UN bases in southern Lebanon today and are following the developments closely. [end recording]

Forces Stopped at Kawkaba

TA311322Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] The vanguard of the Lebanese Army stopped at the village of Kawkaba, a few kilometers from Marj 'Uyun, at noon. This was reported by our military correspondent Roni Dani'el. Reports from the Christian enclave indicate that the artillery shelling directed by the Christians at the Lebanese force and aimed at deterring the Lebanese battalion from entering the enclave stopped. The Lebanese vanguard sent to southern Lebanon numbers about 600 soldiers with 100 vehicles, including armored troop carriers, and it is also possible that it is equipped with artillery. In its movement from the valley region to Kawkaba, the Lebanese battalion was accompanied by a small Syrian unit. Thus, the Syrians have deviated from their line of deployment and reached a distance of only 7 kilometers from the Israeli border.

AFP: FURTHER REPORT ON HALT OF LEBANESE FORCES

TA311323Y Paris AFP in English 1245 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Kawkaba, Lebanon, 31 July--Christian forces blocked the way into southern Lebanon today of the first units of the Lebanese Army.

The first detachment of the army was unable to move beyond Kawkaba, the United Nations forces checkpoint northeast of Marj 'Uyun, although it had been scheduled to travel 40 kms (25 miles) further, to Tibnin.

The detachment commander, Colonel Adib Said, said that the planned route had been blocked by Christrian forces but that he expected a solution would be found shortly which would enable his troops to reach Tibnin "tomorrow or Wednesday."

A few rockets and mortar shells fired from Christian enclaves fell near the Lebanese detachment as it awaited the go-ahead at the Nepalese UN checkpoint at Kawkaba.

VOICE OF LEBANON ON ARMY'S ENTRY INTO SOUTH

NC010758Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpts] Lebanese official quarters have expressed anxiety over the task of the army force in the south. Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus appeared pessimistic and upset because some of the guarantees given before the army went to the border area dissolved as soon as the Lebanese force arrived there.

Authoritative sources have said that through U.S. diplomatic efforts the Lebanese Government received Israel's approval of the army's return to the south after Arab and local circumstances had prevented the forces now present in the border area from being considered legitimate forces acceptable to all the parties concerned.

The Lebanese Government wants to know the reason Israel has changed its attitude and adopted a rejectionist stand.

Last night Minister Butrus asked U.S. Ambassador Richard Parker to contact Washington and ask it to exert pressure on the Tel Aviv government to facilitate the Lebanese Army's entry into the south. It has been learned that Ambassador Parker contacted the U.S. State Department more than once and informed it of the Lebanese desire.

It has been reported that the U.S. ambassador in Israel has asked the Tel Aviv government to adopt a moderate position.

Despite the fact that no statement has been issued by any Israeli official, the trend of the Israeli propaganda suggests that officials in the Jewish state have not responded to the U.S. request.

Within the framework of diplomatic efforts the Lebanese Government is exerting to implement its new military step in the south, permanent Lebanese UN Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, who is now in Beirut, has contacted UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. He has asked Waldheim to exert pressure on Israel and warn it of the consequences of confronting the Lebanese Army and of obstructing the implementation of the remainder of UN Resolution 425.

These developments concerning the army in the south come at a time when President Ilyas Sarkis is preparing to deliver a speech on Army Day about an hour from now. B'abda Palace sources have said that President Sarkis will call for renewing confidence in the army command and for keeping this establishment away from narrow political differences. President Sarkis will also reassert his faith in the correctness of the formula adopted to reorganize the army, though some reservations about this formula have been expressed. He is also expected to point out that the Lebanese Government soon intends to charge the army with security duties other than those connected with the south.

Cities Reported Israeli Shelling

NC010715Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] According to the latest report from the south, explosions continued to be heard late last night near the areas where Lebanese Army units are located. There have been conflicting views regarding the sources of the shelling due to the presence of several factions in the area. However, the Lebanese Army Command's Fifth Branch has issued a statement revealing that the Israeli forces shelled the Lebanese forces, inflicting casualties upon them.

The UNIFIL Command has also issued a statement accusing elements of Maj Sa'd Haddad of opening fire on the Lebanese forces, which were led by a unit of the Arab Deterrent Forces.

Meanwhile, Israel has not confirmed that it opened fire on the Lebanese Army, but it did accuse the unit heading for the south of being pro-Syrian. Syria and the Lebanese left have expressed many reservations regarding the present structure of the army.

UNIFIL ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON S. LEBANON SITUATION

TA312045Y Paris AFP in English 2000 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 31 July (AFP)--Major Sa'd Haddad's Christian militia today fired on forces of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) after issuing an ultimatum to the Lebanese forces, UNIFIL said in a communique issued here.

The communique said that a Lebanese Army unit had been deployed since this morning in the Kawkaba region of southern Lebanon near "blue helmets" made up of Norwegian and Nepalese troops. After the initial shooting, there was a period of calm which lasted until 1:15 pm local. Earlier, toward midday, Major Haddad had given the Lebanese troops an ultimatum, threatening to resume firing if the Lebanese did not pull out of UNIFIL-controlled zones. The communique said that firing from Marj 'Uyun resumed toward 1:15 pm local. The target was Kawkaba and the surrounding district. There was no ripost.

In a second communique, UNIFIL said that sporadic shellfire was heard an hour later. The Norwegian and Nepalese positions were hit and a Lebanese soldier wounded.

In Beirut, a spokesman of Camille Sham'un's National Liberal Party said that the difficulties encountered by Lebanese troops returning to southern Lebanon were caused by "a last-minute change in the Israelis' attitude." The spokesman said that Lebanese Army leaders, after contacts yesterday with Israeli officers, had decided to send the army today through Al-Biqa' in central Lebanon.

This morning, the spokesman said, a high-ranking Israeli officer, named as Lieutenant-Colonel Kol, sent a message to Kawkaba "clearly indicating his opposition to [passage indistinct].

ISRAELI: CHRISTIAN MILITIAS CONTINUE SHELLING

TA010559Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpt] Throughout the night, the Christian militias in the Marj 'Uyun salient in southern Lebanon continued to shell the regular Lebanese battalion encamped at Kawkabe. This is reported by our military correspondent Roni Dani'el.

Tension continues to be high in the salient and the Christians are awaiting developments with apprehension. The commander of the Lebanese battalion expressed the hope that an arrangement would be found today or tomorrow to enable his unit to move on to the township of Tibnin on the central front.

Will Oppose Army's Entry

TA010922Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The Christians in southern Lebanon say that they will do everything to prevent the entry of the regular Lebanese force into the territory under their control. The commanders of the militias told our correspondent Yehezqel Hame'iri this morning that they had decided to open fire on the battalion making its way south after no doubt was left that this force gets its instructions from Damascus and that it is under Syrian command. They pointed out that had this been a Lebanese force free of any Syrian influence they would welcome its presence in the south.

The commanders of the militias accused President Sarkis of cooperating with the Syrians. They asked, if this force really is a Lebanese force why does President Sarkis not use it to put a stop to the massacre in Beirut?

The regular battalion comprising 600 soldiers is still encamped in the region of Kawkaba north of Marj 'Uyun. Contacts between Israel, Lebanon and the United Nations are being made in an attempt to find a way to allow these soldiers to carry out their mission.

ARMY COMMAND ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT

NC311758Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Subsequent to its previous communique, the Fifth Branch of the Army Command has issued the following:

Following the implementation of the first stage of the military plan assigned to the army forces heading south, these forces have designated the area of Kawkabah and its surroundings as a waiting area. This has been done in order to allow their command to determine the roads which they should take and to remove the mines in the roads in order to pave the way for the implementation of the second stage of their movement within the context of the general plan.

The army forces were subjected to concentrated artillery shelling by the Israelis during their presence in the waiting area, as a result of which one soldier was seriously wounded.

Comments on Israeli Shelling

NC011112Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[1 August statement issued by the Fifth Branch of the Lebanese Army Command--read by announcer]

[Text] The army force which was entering the UNIFIL area of operations was subjected to concentrated Israeli shelling throughout the night from guns of various caliber. A soldier was slightly wounded and some vehicles were damaged as a result of the shelling. The force continues to hold its position after completing the first phase of its deployment, pending the implementation of the second phase soon.

SUPPORT CONTINUES FOR LEGAL AUTHORITY IN LEBANON

LD011048Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 1 August--Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar has affirmed Syria's desire to continue its efforts to support the legal authority in Lebanon and to frustrate the chances of the enemies of Lebanon who harbor malice against its Arabism and who seek its partition.

The Syrian minister said in a special statement to the newspaper AR-RIYADH today that the security of Syria and Lebanon are fatefully interlinked and that it is not possible to be lenient toward any event or any attitude that aims to undermine the security of Lebanon and consequently Syria's security. Ahmad Iskandar talked about the Zionist plot which is being hatched against Lebanon, and he said that it not only threatens Lebanon's security, but also the security of the entire area.

The Syrian minister stressed his country's desire to see the Lebanese state quickly rebuild its institutions and the bases of its existence, together with the realization of security and stability in Lebanon. He also stressed Syria's support and full respect for the legal authority of Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis. He described Syrian-Palestinian relations at this stage as very good and strategic. He also described Saudi-Syrian relations as fraternal and good.

DAMASCUS PAPER SAYS NO PEACE WITH AS-SADAT REGIME

JN010801Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the collapse of the As-Sadat initiative, the newspaper TISHRIN says: As long as the As-Sadat regime persists in its policy of direct contacts with Israel and subservience to the United States, any talk in the present circumstances about reviving Arab solidarity with the As-Sadat regime and making peace with it will be no more than an attempt to save this regime, acquiesce in its deviation and encourage it to continue to disavow Arab national obligations.

TISHRIN adds: The question of Palestine and the conflict with the Zionist enemy are Arab national issues. It is impermissible for any Arab side to attempt to solve or negotiate over this issue unilaterally. Any deviation from this line is considered a stab in the back to the Arab cause, Arab solidarity and the closing of Arab ranks. And this is what the As-Sadat regime has done and insists on doing.

The paper concludes: If the nonalined states during their last conference in Belgrade condemned the attempt of the United States, Israel and the As-Sadat regime to conclude a separate and unilateral settlement and acknowledged the right of the Arabs to fight such a settlement with all the means in their power, is it conceivable for the Arab states to be less concerned about Arab rights than the allied nonalined states?

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE FAHD ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN311633Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, arrived in Damascus at 1800 today. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, several ministers, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus and members of the embassy staff. His Highness Prince Fahd will hold talks with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad on the situation in the Arab area.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN311927Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] At 1900 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh; and his highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs. The meeting was also attended by the Saudi Ambassador in Damascus, Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd.

Area Situation Discussed

JN010758Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] At 1930 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh; and His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs. The meeting was also attended by Saudi Ambassador in Damascus Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd.

The two sides reviewed the Arab situation from all aspects and means of tackling this situation. They also reviewed the situation in Lebanon.

His Highness Crown Prince Fahd and the other conferees were hosted at dinner by President Hafiz al-Asad. After the dinner, President al-Asad and Crown Prince Fahd held a separate meeting.

President al-Asad and Crown Prince Fahd will hold another meeting today.

SAUDI COMMERCE MINISTER IN DAMASCUS ON 3-DAY VISIT

JN311420Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 31 July--The Saudi commerce minister, Dr Sulayman al-'Abd al-'Aziz as-Sulayyim, arrived in Damascus this morning on a 3-day visit to Syria to participate in the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Damascus International Fair.

Dr as-Sulayyim was received at the Damascus airport by the economy and foreign trade minister, Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, Saudi Ambassador in Damascus Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd, and the senior officials of the embassy.

NEW RADIO STATION OPENS AT DAYR AZ-ZAWR

JN292136Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad inaugurated a new radio station in Dayr az-Zawr this evening. The minister made a speech on the occasion in which he explained the reasons for installing this station which will carry the voice of pan-Arab Syria to the Arab homeland and reflect the pan-Arab stands of our party. This radio station will carry the principles of our policy across the artificial borders separating the regions of our Arab nation.

ALGERIA

BOUTEFLIKA, MOZAMBIQUE'S CHISSANO ARRIVE FROM BELGRADE

LD311002Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] The Algerian delegation led by Abdelaziz Bouteflika, minister of foreign affairs, which attended the OAU summit in Khartoum and the ministerial conference of nonalined countries in Belgrade, returned to Algiers last night. Members of the delegation included Redha Malek, minister of information and culture, and Slimane Hoffmann, chairman of the party's International Relations Committee.

Arriving on the same aircraft was Joachim Chissano, minister of foreign affairs of Mozambique, who expressed his satisfaction with the results of the OAU summit but also mentioned African problems and the need to improve African cooperation. He confirmed his country's determination to resist the aggression of the Salisbury regime and to give increased support to the fight of the Zimbabwean and Namibian peoples for liberation.

LIBYA

PDRY FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR AL-QADHDHAFI

LD312230Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, PDRY minister of finance, arrived in Tripoli this evening on a few days visit to the Jamahiriyah.

"Brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah made a statement to the JANA correspondent in which he expressed his pleasure at visiting his second homeland, the Jamahiriyah. He said: I am conveying the greetings of brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council and Council of Ministers, to brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September revolution and the heroic Libyan Arab people."

JANA EDITOR COMMENTS ON STATEMENTS BY MUBARAK

LD311120Y Tripoli JANA in English 0944 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, July 31, JANA--JANA's political editor has commented on the declarations which were made recently by the Egyptian vice president, Husni Mubarak, in Tehran in which he openly accused (Israel) of being an obstacle on the road to peace.

JANA's political editor said: "Egypt is now sure through its vice president that (Israel) is not seeking peace but land", and in that connection we agree with him. He also said that Husni Mubarak's declarations affirmed what we used to maintain all along, that (Israel) is an alien entity in the area and its existence is against peace and that it was founded by means of usurping land and the expulsion of the Arab people from this land.

JANA's political editor further said that the Egyptian Government should adopt a positive stand after realizing that the Zionist entity was based on aggression. Egypt should also be aware that the solution is to re-evaluate Egyptian policy in order to regain its occupied territories by military force and not by direct negotiations.

AL-QADHDHAFI LECTURES STUDENTS, OFFICERS IN MISRATAH

LD271814Y Tripoli JANA in English 1513 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpt] Misratah, July 27, JANA--Yesterday evening the supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, met the students of the college in Misratah. The meeting was attended by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the general commander of the armed forces, the chief of staff of the air forces, the commander of the college and officers of the college.

On his arrival at the college, the officers and students shouted: "Long live the revolution and long live its leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi gave an ideological lecture in which he explained the passages in the Green Book and particularly the part about authority, wealth and arms being in the hands of the people. He also talked about the historical transformations which the Jamahiriyah was experiencing. Such a transformation, he said, was unique, because Libya was the first Jamahiriyah in history.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi explained the fundamental transformation achieved by the revolution which would affect all fields, including the military establishment, because when the firearms, the arms of wealth and the arms of authority were possessed by a certain groups, it represented terrorism for the rest of society.

He affirmed that defending the country was the responsibility of every citizen and it was not the responsibility of one group.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added that transforming the hired workers into partners, and putting the wealth and arms in the hands of the people was the real solution and would lead to the ideal society which humanity was seeking.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA MEETS WITH SFRY'S MOJSOV IN BELGRADE

LD291213Y Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 29 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade--M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, was received on Friday morning in Belgrade by Lazar Mojsov, vice president of the Yugoslav Republic. During the meeting M'hamed Boucetta conveyed a verbal message from King Hassan II to President Tito. At the meeting, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, they discussed bilateral cooperation, the future of the nonalined movement and foreign interventions in Africa, in particular Cuban intervention. The viewpoints of the two parties were identical during this meeting, which lasted for more than 45 minutes.

The minister of state also continued his contacts with the foreign affairs ministers participating in the Belgrade conference.

Reports on Arab Meeting

LD311750Y Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] Rabat, 31 July, MAP--The Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs, M. Boucetta, returned home from Belgrade on Sunday. "Questioned by national and international journalists, Boucetta underlined the importance of the Belgrade conference, which was convened to settle several issues concerning, in particular, the situation of the nonalined movement, foreign intervention in Africa and the conduct of certain member countries of the group of the nonalined. Morocco, he said, has clearly explained its point of view on these issues and has insisted on the need to safeguard the principles which have been the basis of the foundation of nonalinement.

"As far as the Moroccan Sahara is concerned, Boucetta said, we have been able to win a new victory, as the conference has recommended that the issue remain within the competence of the Organization of African Unity, and should be examined within the African framework. We took this occasion to reaffirm to the group of nonalined that for us it was a question of the completion of our territorial integrity, which has been accomplished in accordance with international recommendations and decisions. We also explained that the tension in northwest Africa is caused by the aggression against Morocco and Mauritania. Several delegations supported and defended Morocco's position.

"The minister also indicated that the Belgrade conference examined issues concerning economic cooperation between nonalined countries and world disarmament.

"Asked about the venue of the next summit of the nonalined in Havana, Boucetta said that this decision had been made at the time of the summit in Colombo, but that in the meantime Cuba had undertaken actions which had nothing in common with nonalinement. He said that certain delegations have demanded Cuba's expulsion from the nonalined movement: others have said that Havana is no longer in a position to house this summit; and a third group, to which Morocco belongs, has made reservations to the effect that Cuba no longer respects the principles of nonalinement.

"Asked about the meeting held by the member countries of the Arab League also in Belgrade, M. Boucetta said that all the Arab countries had taken part in the meeting and that even those which belong to the so-called rejection front and which boycotted the ministerial session last February and the conference held recently at the invitation of the Yemen Arab Republic have returned to their positions. He added that despite the tense atmosphere at this meeting, the Arab countries were able to coordinate their positions and present a joint point of view to the conference of the nonalined.

"To a last question on the intentions of certain powers to take control of the sources of energy in the Gulf, M. Boucetta said that this question has to be linked to Israel's attempts to introduce nuclear weapons in the region. He added that the Iraqi proposal on this matter is very close to the Moroccan point of view, except as regards the manner of its presentation to the UN bureau charged with disarmament. M. Boucetta took this occasion to congratulate and thank Iraq for its clear and courageous stance on the Moroccan Sahara issue, as expressed by Sa'dun Hammadi during the debates on the Belgrade agenda."

MAURITANIAN MINISTER BRINGS MESSAGE FOR KING HASSAN

LD292146Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] The Mauritanian minister of youth and sports continues his visit to Morocco. After his meeting with King Hassan yesterday, he met today with the secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, A. Baddou, in his office.

Following this meeting he made a statement to the press on his visit to the country. He said he brought a message to King Hassan from Mauritanian President Saleck. "He explained that the message deals with the results of all the meetings held between the new Mauritanian Government and friendly and fraternal countries which he described as positive. The Mauritanian minister of youth said that the heads of state who were contacted had expressed understanding of Mauritania and expressed readiness to cooperate with it in developing its economy and reaching a comprehensive and honorable peace in the region."

Departs After Visit

LD311740Y Rabat MAP in French 1430 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpt] Casablanca--Maj Thiam El Hadj, Mauritanian minister of youth and sports and member of the Military Committee of National Recovery, left Casablanca-Novasseur Airport on Monday after a 4-day visit to Morocco.

EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK LEAVES

LD281248Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak left Morocco this morning. He was seen off at the airport by the crown prince, the minister of interior; the minister of transport; the secretary of state for foreign affairs; Abedlhadi Boutales, adviser to his majesty; and the ambassadors of Egypt and Iran. At the airport he said his talks with His Majesty King Hassan II had dealt with the Middle East problem, the situation in Africa and matters of common interest. He added that the views of the two sides on the issues discussed were identical.

HASSAN RECEIVES CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU

LD292125Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] King Hassan received today at the royal palace in Casablanca the prime minister of Canada, Pierre Elliot Trudeau. The meeting was limited to the two leaders and lasted 55 minutes.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI GIVES MONTHLY TALK TO NATION

LD312042 [Editorial Report LD/EA] Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic at 1703 GMT on 31 July carries the monthly address to the nation "between the leader and the people" by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

During the broadcast, which lasts 105 minutes, Numayri replies to a letter asking why there has been no reference this year to the events of July 1971, when there was a communist takeover attempt in Sudan. He says:

"I know perhaps better than others, brothers, that the forces which have besieged Sudan since July 1971 are now trying to reverse their previous failures, supported by bases close to Sudan, just across the border, and by elements inside and inherent in Sudan. But I would like to affirm here and now that Numayri will never be Al-Ghashmi, Numayri will not be Salim Rubayi'i [words indistinct]. As long as I live, Sudan will not be like the YAR, the victim of ceaseless plotting aimed at shaking its stability so that it may become yet another of the bases for the smuggling of ideology and domination by arms in Africa and the Arab world. The people of Sudan have rejected communism more than once, more than 20 times. They will always reject it."

President Numayri goes on to discuss how the workers' problems can be solved through negotiation and the legal machinery set up by the government. He then turns to the question of Eritrea:

"Perhaps this is the occasion on which I should affirm, my brothers, that despite every kind of pressure and despite every threat we will continue to support the Eritrean cause to attain a just solution for it without ignoring the bond of brotherhood linking us to sister Ethiopia and without overlooking the objectives of the great strategy and its ambitions and aims.

"We are not unaware that we in Sudan bear the burden of the Eritrean issue, because of its complications and repercussions. We are bearing it through the thousands of refugees in our country. We bear it with its dangerous complications, both visible and invisible. For this reason we are a party to it [words indistinct]. For this reason our efforts will continue to take it toward a just solution without doing harm to any of the parties."

During the program Numayri also praises the people for hospitality during the OAU conference, the security forces for maintaining security, and SUNA for its reporting. He concludes by calling on the people of Sudan to bear the flood disaster with fortitude.

TUNISIA

TUNISIA DENIES ATTENDING MEETING TO INDICT AS-SADAT

LD312010Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Contrary to reports broadcast by some Arab radios that a press conference has been held to announce the draft indictment of the initiative of President Anwar as-Sadat by a presidential committee (lajnah ri'asiyyah) comprising officials from Libya, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria and the Palestine revolution, responsible Tunisian circles declare that they have no knowledge of the report and that Tunisia did not take part in such meetings.

BOURGUIBA TO UNDERGO CHECKUP IN PARIS CLINIC

LD301730Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The presidency of the republic has issued the following communique: following his 4-week rest, doctors tending His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba have advised him to under go complementary medical checkups in a Paris specialist clinic.

President Bourguiba today spent some time in Vincennes park, accompanied by his special adviser, Habib Bourguiba, Jr, and by a number of officials accompanying him on his private visit to the French capital.

ALGIERS REPORTS SENTENCES IN SFAX TU TRIAL

LD271200Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Five sentences of 2 years' imprisonment without remission, three sentences of suspended imprisonment and four acquittals were announced by the criminal court at Sfax yesterday evening in the trial of 12 trade unionists in prison since 26 January. Let us remind you that the national secretary of the National Union of Algerian Workers is to go to Tunis to make inquires about the situation.

WESTERN SAHARA

DEFENSE MINISTRY 27 JULY COMMUNIQUE REPORTS SUCCESSES

LD271348Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Saharan People's Liberation Army continues its successful assaults against the royal Moroccan occupation forces and their military establishments. A communique issued today by the Saharan Defense Ministry explains that on 24 July the Saharan revolutionaries attacked the garrison of the royal expansionists in (Buqqadur) town. The Saharan combatants strafed the garrison and positions and killed four royal Moroccan soldiers.

During the battles, which went on for over 3 hours, the invaders suffered heavy losses, as evidenced by the killing of 75 Moroccan soldiers, the wounding of a similar number and the destruction of military establishments of the garrison. The Saharan revolutionaries then set fire to 15 military vehicles and captured a significant quantity of light weapons.

The Saharan military communique confirms that on the same day the Saharan combatants attacked the royal Moroccan invasion forces in Buirat region. The occupation forces fell in an ambush resulting in the destruction of four military vehicles and the killing of 8 soldiers and the wounding of 10 others.

Some 50 kilometers west of Semara, the Saharan revolutionaries were able to attack a convoy of the occupation soldiers which resulted in the killing of 14 and the wounding of similar number and the destruction of seven military vehicles.

In [name indistinct] the Saharan combatants attacked the occupation forces, inflicting on them heavy losses as shown by the killing of four invading soldiers and the wounding of six others.

BEGIN LAUDS U.S. STATEMENT ON AS-SADAT STANCE

TA312018Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin this evening expressed satisfaction with the U.S. State Department statement, which expresses deep dissatisfaction over the stand of the Egyptian president regarding the continuation of contacts in the Middle East. Mr Begin says that several months were needed until the truth became clear. All this time nations and states have been misled into thinking that Egypt is striving, as it were, for peace, while Israel does not desire this.

Mr Begin noted that Israel would not present conditions in the talks in the region.

The prime minister said that the cabinet will receive with blessings the U.S. secretary of state, who will come to Israel in a few days.

DAYAN REPORTS TO KNESSET COMMITTEE ON PEACE TALKS

TA311735Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 31 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Saudi Arabia believes that the negotiations between Israel and Egypt have come to an end. This report was given by U.S. roving ambassador Alfred Atherton when he visited Jerusalem, and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan reported this to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today. It seems, however, that the foreign minister does not think that the negotiations are over.

Answering questions from Knesset members about the possibility that talks will be held in the Sinai, the foreign minister said he would have to wait for the visit of Cyrus Vance to the region.

Mr Dayan stressed that the Egyptians are adamant in their demand for sovereignty over Arab lands, meaning Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. They also insist that not a single Israeli soldier remain in those areas.

Alinement members on the committee attacked the handling of the negotiations by the cabinet and said that they are being conducted in a dumb manner. MAFDAL MK Ben-Me'ir reacted by saying that mistakes had indeed been made, but this cabinet has announced its readiness for far-reaching concessions, and no other cabinet would be capable of making concessions.

PERES: BEGIN STANCE INCREASINGLY ISOLATES ISRAEL

TA311521Y Tel Aviv HAZOFE in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 2 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin's statements create an image of Israel as a country which wants territories while the Arabs want peace, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said last night at a public rally organized by the Or 'Aqiva Labor Party branch.

Peres said that the prime minister declared that he would not return even one grain of sand, but that already in the first evening with As-Sadat he promised to return the entire Sinai, including the Jewish settlements in the Rafah approaches, together with many grains of sand from the Sinai plains. After every meeting with As-Sadat, Begin declared that he was happy and by doing so he praised As-Sadat. At the time, Begin rejected making a positive reply to the United States concerning the sovereignty of Judaea and Samaria after 5 years, while now he has announced that the Likud government is prepared to discuss the issue of sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria.

The government is not considering what is good for the country but what is good for the cabinet, so that ministers will not resign, Mr Peres argues. However, Minister Horowitz proved that there is no danger that ministers will resign--they retract their resignations.

Peres added that after As-Sadat and the Arabs were unsuccessful in defeating Israel and lost four wars, Egypt's president is now trying to defeat Israel by isolating it. He has succeeded in isolating us from the African countries and from European countries, and he is now trying to isolate us from the United States and thus defeat us without a war.

According to Peres, Egypt is very much interested in having peace so as to prevent Soviet infiltration into other areas of the Middle East, while the Likud government is not taking advantage of the opportunity to sign a peace agreement with Egypt.

The Alinement's peace plan maintains Israel's security and Jerusalem's unity by making territorial concessions, foreswearing negotiations with the PLO and favoring the establishment of a Palestinian state in Jordan.

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST SYRIANS IN LEBANON

TA311325Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 2 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] All the signs indicate that the Lebanese unit to leave today for our border is more Syrian than Lebanese: first of all, its commander is known to be a loyal servant of the Syrians; second the route taken by the unit is one that runs precisely through the Christian enclave where its presence is undesirable; third, immediately upon the unit's departure the two Christian forces' commanders were ordered to report to Beirut. If reliable Israeli sources promised "not to forsake the Christians in Lebanon," the time has come to translate this into action.

LEBANON URGED TO TAKE FIRMER STEPS AGAINST SYRIANS

TA311326Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 5 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] What is the nature of the Lebanese battalion that is to move south today to the Israeli border and impose the Lebanese Government's rule on the area under the Christian militias' control?

The Lebanese Government--as everyone knows--is a political fiction. It exists on paper only. It has no real power, neither in the area under Syrian control nor in places where UN forces are stationed, nor in the border strip which is under the Christian militias' control. It is hard to believe that the said battalion, which--after long delays--is supposed to take up positions in southern Lebanon and impose the authority that does not exist in any other place in that poor country, really constitutes a neutral element with no political trends.

All in all, the Lebanese Army numbers several hundred soldiers. Logically speaking, it should be kept in the area where the greatest tension prevails, that is, in Beirut, where the Syrian Army is threatening to annihilate the population of the Christian quarters. The fact that precisely now, during the murderous shelling in Beirut, the Lebanese Government sees an urgent need to station the major part of the small force at its disposal in the south in a place where quiet prevails and life goes on as usual arouses the fear that the aim of that move is not to impose Lebanese sovereignty, but rather to break the Christian militias' power.

The Christian fighters in the south are determined not to let the unit from Beirut enter the area under their control. Israel has made it clear that there will not be any opposition to the entry of the Lebanese battalion if it recognizes the authority of the local Christian commanders and if it does not interfere with the operation of the "good fence."

Beirut should take these conditions into account if it does not want to add another center of tension to the ones already existing, which prevent the rehabilitation of the torn country.

U.S. PRESSURING ISRAEL TO FACILITATE LEBANESE ARMY MOVE

TA010829Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Aug 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez and Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpt] Israel will object to the movement of the battalion of the "vanguard of the Arab Lebanese Army" through the boundaries of the Christian enclave north of Metulla. This was announced yesterday afternoon by official elements in Israel. All through the night the Christian forces in the enclave, commanded by Major Sa'd Haddad, shelled the region in which the Lebanese battalion had halted, near the village of Kawkaba. It has been learned that one of the soldiers in the battalion was severely wounded yesterday and rushed in a UN helicopter to the UN hospital in An-Naqurah.

Diplomatic pressures are being exerted on Israel to influence the Christians in southern Lebanon to allow the battalion of "the vanguard of the Arab Lebanese Army" to pass through the boundaries of the enclaves. U.S. Ambassador in Israel Samuel Lewis spoke with Defense Minister Weizman on this matter on the telephone yesterday. There were contacts between other elements at the embassy with the government offices. There were also appeals from the UN headquarters to the IDF.

The commander of the UN force, General Erskine, is remaining at his headquarters in An-Naqurah and is following the developments closely.

ISRAEL WILL NOT ACT IN LEBANON WITHOUT U.S. COORDINATION

TA311216Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 1 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance sent a message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin in which he gives assurances that the United States is closely following the events in Lebanon and that it is taking its own action to calm the situation.

From the assertion in that message that when he comes to Jerusalem he will want to discuss with the prime minister the situation in Lebanon, one can gather that the United States has asked Israel to act with restraint and not to do anything of which the United States will not approve.

This message is one of a series of three exchanges between the prime minister and the U.S. secretary of state concerning Lebanon within 1 week.

Vance's latest message came as a reply to Begin's letter in which he pointed out to the United States the danger of the massacre the Syrians are going to carry out against the Christian minority in Beirut as based on reliable information received in Israel.

It is assumed that Israel, which is following the movements of the Lebanese Army in the light of the Syrians' intentions, will not do anything without first coordinating its moves with the United States.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT FORSAKE LEBANESE CHRISTIANS

TA311217Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] Senior government sources said last night that Israel will not forsake the Christians in Lebanon and will not accept the Syrian aims of massacring that minority.

For several days now Israel has made a serious effort to attain a coordination of positions with the United States with respect to the activity necessitated by the Syrians' aims of massively harming the Christian minority in Beirut and attempting to oust it from the Lebanese capital. Government soucres estimated last night that the extent of coordination between Jerusalem and Washington on this issue is rather sizable.

Israel is closely following the developments in Lebanon. The defense minister briefed the cabinet on this matter yesterday.

SUPERVISION OVER ARAB FUNDS FOR GAZA INCREASED

TA311454Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 6 TA

[By 'Ezra Yanuv]

[Text] The Israeli military government in the Gaza region has recently increased its supervision over funds for business investments from Arab countries. The reference is to entrepreneurs who wish to set up plants and industrial factories in the area and who are prepared to invest over 1 million Israeli pounds in each enterprise.

It is suspected that part of the funds from the Arab countries are financed by elements close to the PLO who want to create an economic infrastructure in the area in anticipation of a possible future autonomy for the area led by the PLO.

For several years now a Jordanian charitable institution, called (Iyya al-Hiri), has been operating in Gaza, supervised by the Ash-Shawwa family. In the framework of that institution, a lot of money has been funneled into Gaza over which there is no Israeli supervision. The money is intended for mutual aid among the local families.

Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa is visiting Arab countries. He left 3 weeks ago with the aim of getting the contributions and grants from Saudi Arabia and the oil emirates promised to Gaza during his previous visits there. Ash-Shawwa is expected to return to Gaza next week. Just prior to his departure, he said that the Gaza municipal council session that he would not return to Gaza without the promised funds which, according to him, amount to $12 million.

DEFENSE MINISTRY LESSENS INVOLVEMENT IN SETTLEMENTS

TA311345Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 1 TA

[By Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Lately, the Defense Ministry has decreased its activity in the settlements beyond the green line to a large extent and in fact deals only with Nahal settlements.

The HA'AREZ correspondent nas learned that recently the decision was made at the Defense Ministry that it and the IDF will no longer handle subjects that are not directly connected with the ministry's business--such as housing, water supply and agriculture concerning the settlements beyond the green line. [paragraph continues]

It has been reported that for reasons within the ministry, the ministry does not want to be the leading force in the settlements.

It has been emphasized to the HA'AREZ correspondent that the decrease in activity did not come about because of objection to settlement, but because the ministry and its members have learned that in the past few months the Defense Ministry has been more active concerning the issue of settlements than any other elements and has thus become the target for criticism, mainly on the part of the chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs, Ari'el Sharon, and his people. It has further been reported that Defense Ministry officials would like the main address for settlement affairs from now on to be Ari'el Sharon and his ministry, because the members of the Defense Ministry have so far thought that despite the agriculture minister's criticism leveled at them, he did not do enough in the field of which he is in charge.

At the end of the week, it was disclosed that the Shilo settlement will probably be relocated. Military government sources said that the settlement is located on private and cultivated lands and that now efforts are being made to find a new site for it. Last week, members of the Justice Ministry visited Shilo.

REGIONAL COUNCIL SET UP FOR W. BANK SETTLEMENTS

TA0108144Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 1 Aug 78 p 5 TA

[Text] The Interior Ministry intends to set up a regional council for all the Israeli settlements in Judaea and Samaria (except for Qiryat Arba'). All the Israeli settlements there have recently received letters from the Interior Ministry notifying them about this intention. To date the Israeli settlements in the West Bank have been linked to regional councils in Israel, especially because of the need to give them funds from the interior and other ministries.

It has been learned that the Ma'ale Ha'adumim people object to joining the regional council since they demand the establishment of an executive in the place. It was reported yesterday that several hundred families want to join Ma'ale Ha'adumim. The establishment of the permanent settlement of Ma'ale Ha'adumim will begin soon near the village of 'Azarya, east of Jerusalem.

MINISTERS TO DISCUSS FURTHER W. BANK CONSTRUCTION

TA2813122 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Jul 78 p 4 TA

[By Yehoshu'a Bizur]

[Text] Prime Minister Begin will hold a meeting today with the finance, agriculture and housing ministers to decide on the continuation of construction in the new settlements beyond the green line. Gush Emunim representatives have met with the prime minister in the last few days demanding that the construction of permanent buildings at settlement sites in Samaria begin immediately so that the settlers can enter them before the coming winter.

The head of the La'am faction in the Knesset, MK Yig'al Kohen, told the MA'ARIV correspondent that the members of his faction are resolved not to approve the additional budget and to vote against it if it does not include an allocation for the construction of houses in the new settlements in Samaria. He also demanded that planning of plants for these settlements be started and that roads be paved to them.

MK Yig'al Kohen also demanded a start on the paving of the road across Samaria. The east-west road that will cross Samaria will pass near the settlement of Shilo. Paving will begin in the coming days. The intention is to set up a large settlement in Shilo and the new road will serve as a good approach to it.

The government has not yet decided on the lands on which the settlement of Shilo will be set up and several possibilities are being examined. It is for this reason that attorneys Pli'a Albeck and Dorit Beinish from the Justice Ministry visited the place the day before yesterday. The visit was held in the framework of examining the legal status of the lands in the Shilo region in order to prevent the submission of an appeal to the Supreme Court as happened in the An-Nabi Salih affair.

AL-JUMAYYIL REPORTEDLY IN ISRAEL FOR TALKS

TA291855Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 29 Jul 78 TA

[Excerpt] The military commander of the Christian forces in Beirut, Bashir al-Jumayyil, arrived in Israel for consultations against the background of reports that a large-scale Syrian military operation is expected against the militias in Beirut.

Our correspondent on Arab affairs, Ehud Ya'ari, says that according to Saudi sources, Al-Jumayyil came to Israel on board an Israeli navy ship which took him from the port of Juniyah.

The Syrians, however, continue to hint that they intend to leave Lebanon and pull their armies out, but Israel thinks that another Syrian attack on the Christians can be expected within the next few days.

This evening, the exchange of fire in Beirut has quieted down. The situation there remains tense.

Representatives of the Lebanese Army and the IDF will meet tomorrow at the UN headquarters at Rosh Haniqra. It is possible that Lebanon wants to hear Israel's position regarding the plan to send a regular unit from the Lebanese Army to the southern Lebanon area as early as this week.

Reported Visit Denied

NC300836Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 30 Jul 78 NC

[Text] The commander of the Christian forces in Lebanon, Bashir al-Jumayyil, has denied reports about his visit to Israel.

Monte Carlo Radio has reported that Al-Jumayyil was, in his command headquarters in Beirut last night. In reply to a question by a French journalist, Al-Jumayyil said that he does not understand why it was reported that he is in Israel or about to go there.

ISRAELI, LEBANESE OFFICERS HOLD TALKS IN AN-NAQURA

TA302101Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 30 Jul 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The deployment of a Lebanese Army Force in the south of the country was discussed this morning at a meeting between IDF officers and Lebanese officers at An-Naqura in southern Lebanon. Military correspondent Yosi 'Abadi reports what was discussed at the meeting: [begin recording]

There were three central issues in the meeting at An-Naqura. The composition of the Lebanese force: Israel demands that the Lebanese Government not surrender to Syrian pressure and that it not include pro-Syrian or proterrorist elements in the forces that are moving to the south--that it be objective and act against the terrorists.

A second problem is the area of deployment: Contrary to Israel's position, which is that the force be deployed from the Litani River up to the strip under the control of the Christian militias, the Syrians are pressing to have the force integrated into the militias and that the militia commanders, Shidyaq and Haddad, be replaced.

The Lebanese are apprehensive of moving to the south over the Litani River bridges and wish to pass through Marj 'Uyun, which is under Christian control.

The third problems concerns the size of the force. The Lebanese Government will send 500 soldiers and apparently is unable to send more. A force of this size is too small and will not be effective in neutralizing the terrorists. [end recording]

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS NORWEGIAN OFFICER

TA2813l6Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori conferred in his office today with the Norwegian chief of staff who came to visit the Norwegian unit stationed in southern Lebanon. The two discussed the situation in southern Lebanon and the possibility of stationing a Lebanese Army unit in this area.

The deputy defense minister emphasized to his guest that Israel will not permit southern Lebanon to become a terrorist base again and that Israel hopes Lebanon will be run by a sovereign government and not by foreign forces. The Christian world, Mordekhay Zippori said, must help the Christians in Lebanon.

The Norwegian chief of staff thanked his host for the aid Israel has extended to the Norwegian soldiers in the UN force. In reply the deputy defense minister promised that Israel will continue to help them as much as it can.

POLL SHOWS WEIZMAN THOUGHT HEIR TO BEGIN

TA3113l4lY Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 31 Jul 78 p 3 TA

[Excerpt] A representative cross-section of the adult Jewish population in Israel comprising 1,200 men and women 18 years of age and older were asked who they would like to see as prime minister "if Begin should not be able to continue his job for some reason." No list of names was presented to those questioned and they could choose any candidate they wished.

'Ezer Weizman ended up in first place with 23.5 percent. This is an increase of 4.1 percent compared to an identical PORI poll held in March. Shim'on Peres ended up in second place with 18.6 percent. This marks an increase of 4.8 percent over the March poll results. Third place went to Moshe Dayan, who received 7.2 percent, compared to his 9.0 percent in March--a decline of 1.8 percent. Yizhaq Rabin ended up fourth with 3.6 percent, compared to 4.3 percent in March. Fifth is Yiga'el Yadin with 3.2 percent as against 5.8 percent in March, a decline of 2.6 percent. Sixth is Ari'el Sharon who received 2.4 percent, as against 2.5 percent in March. Seventh came Abba Eban.

The following personalities received less than 1 percent: Yig'al Allon, Simha Ehrlich, Yosef Burg, Gold Me'ir, Yizhaq Shamir, Yizhaq Navon, Amnon Rubinstein, Yig'al Horowitz, Me'ir 'Amit, Yehuda Ben Me'ir, Moshe Shamir, Me'ir Zore'a, Shemu'el Tamir, Hayyim Zadoq, Hayyim Herzog, Moshe Arens, Yoram Aridor and Arye Eli'av.

As against 41.1 percent in March, 36.3 percent said that "they did not know" who could take over instead of Begin.

PRC PETROLEUM MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD271124Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpts] Mr Sung Chen-ming, PRC minister of petroleum industry, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a delegation of high-ranking economic officials from that country. During the next 3 days the delegation will inspect oil installations, the oil-loading terminal at Khark Island, the Abadan refinery, the Ahvaz and Agha Jari oilfields, the Marun field and the Bid-E Boland gas refinery installations. On return to Tehran on Sunday, the PRC petroleum minister will hold important talks with Mr Hushang Ansari, NIOC chairman and managing director, as well as with other NIOC senior officials.

The delegation will stay in Iran for 6 days, during which it will have meetings and talks with Dr Reza Amin, minister of industries and mines, and Mr Taqi Tavakkoli, minister of energy. The PRC petroleum minister's visit to our country is expected to make a major contribution toward developing trade relations between the two countries.

Visits Oil Installations

LD281138Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 28 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Continuing his visits to oil installations in Khuzestan Province the Chinese minister of petroleum and chemical industries arrived in Abadan today. Mr Sung Chen-ming, the PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries, and the delegation accompanying him, who have traveled to Khuzestan to visit the southern oil installations, arrived in Khark Island yesterday morning and visited the island's oil installations, the crude oil export [words indistinct].

Continuing the 4-day visit to Khuzestan, the PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries and his delegation arrived in Abadan this morning. After arriving in Abadan the Chinese delegation visited the NIOC central headquarters, and the superintendent of the Abadan refinery gave it a detailed and complete account on the various aspects of crude oil production in the country, internal consumption and also on the various petroleum products produced by the refinery.

Continues Visit

LD301310Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Mr Sung Chen-ming, PRC minister of petroleum, is in Khuzestan Province at the head of a delegation which is visiting Iranian oil and industrial installations. On the fourth day of his visit to the province, he arrived in Agha Jari region this morning and visited Omidiyeh pumping stations one and two.

Later the PRC petroleum minister and his entourage flew by helicopter to the nearby [word indistinct] gas refinery. This is one of the world's biggest and most up-to-date refineries, which forms the core of the Iranian gas industry.

Received by Industry Minister

LD311358Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1300 GMT 31 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The PRC minister of the petroleum and chemical industries met and held talks with Mr Mohammad Reza Amin, minister of industries and mines, this morning. At the meeting, which was held at the office of the minister of industries and mines, the PRC ambassador to the imperial court and members of the visiting Chinese delegation were present.

Advocates Extensive Cooperation

LD011014Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries, at the end of his visit to our country's oil industry installations in the south, expressed pleasure at the outcome of his visit and declared: Iran has great experience in the oil industry which can be a useful basis for oil cooperation between Iran and the PRC. He took part in an interview with our correspondent and said: During my stay in Iran, I observed closely Iran's success in most areas; I noticed especially the great achievement of the Iranian people since the nationalization of the oil industry.

The PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries also referred to the vast oil installations in the south of our country in Ahvaz, Abadan, Agha Jari and Kharg Island and said: In view of the valuable experience of Iran in the area of oil activities, our two countries should have extensive cooperation in prospecting, production and refining operations.

The PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries in his visit to the south toured the Ahvas pipeline manufacturing plants and the Iran gas refining company. At a meeting yesterday with Mr Mohammad Reza Amin, the minister of industries and mines of our country, he also discussed matters of interest to the two countries.

CHAIRMAN HUA TO VISIT IRAN IN AUGUST

OW261017Y Paris AFP in English 1015 GMT 26 Jul 78 OW

[Text] Teheran, July 26 (AFP)--Chairman Hua Kuo-feng will visit Iran on August 28 and 29 on his way back from an official visit to Yugoslavia, reliable sources said here today. Chairman Hua was expected to have talks with the shah, which observers said would be courteous but noncommittal on the Iranian side. The observers said that in spite of Iran's wariness with regard to its northern neighbour, the Soviet Union, it did not intend mortaging its future by adopting Peking's anti-hegemonist policies.

On the other hand, they said, Iran could consider Chinese friendship as a psychological prop to its security, particularly in view of the dormant nature of its alliance with the United States. It could also envisage a restructuring of its alliances, they said.

BRIEFS

AIR AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN--Tehran, PANA (PARS News Agency)--An agreement was signed between Iran Air and Alia, the royal Jordanian airline, in Tehran this morning; according to the agreement the two countries will expand cooperation in tourism and [word indistinct] of the two airlines will meet twice a year. The two sides also praised tourist exchanges between Iran and Jordan in the past. [Excerpt] [Teheran PARS in English 1007 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD]

CHOLERA UNDER CONTROL--It has been announced today that the disease el tov cholera [as heard] has been brought under control in the townships of Minab and Genabad and that there is no cause for any anxiety whatsoever. In order to prevent this disease the Ministry of Health and Welfare has called on the people to observe all hygiene conditions. [Text] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 28 Jul 78 LD]

INDIA

DESAI COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR POLICY, 1974 POKHRAN EXPLOSION

BK310936Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister has said that the only way to secure disarmament and universal brotherhood is the way of outlawing all atomic tests and explosions. This is the objective toward which the world is moving, and this is the field in which India will have to set an example. Mr Morarji Desai was making a statement in response to a calling-attention motion in the Rajya Sabha today raised by Mr Kalpanath Ray, Congress-I, and 26 others on his reported statement that India will not undertake nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes and on the nuclear explosion at Pokhran in 1974. He said there is no alternative for India but to stand for exorcising the (?demon) of the use of nuclear science for nonpeaceful purposes.

On the nuclear explosion at Pokhran 4 years ago, Mr Desai said that he is justified in thinking that it was done more for political than for scientific gains. At the same time, Mr Desai clarified, he had maintained and said to the foreign dignataries with whom he had had discussions that he does not believe that the Pokhran explosion has directed toward a switchover to military purposes. The prime minister said that on the basis of his discussions with heads of foreign countries he can say how much misunderstanding that explosion had created in their assessment of India's devotion to pursuit of this great scientific discovery of modern times. He said he is not convinced that India has gained information of scientific value for peaceful use which will justify the risk of such misunderstanding and consequential embarrassment in international relations on this issue.

PRO-PEKING EXTREMISTS APPARENTLY REAPPEARING IN INDIA

OW311848Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1834 GMT 31 Jul 78 OW

[Text] New Delhi, July 31 (AFP)--The pro-Peking extremist communists, the Naxalites, appear to be reviving underground activities in several states after a lapse of several years.

Reports today said that a statue of Mahatma Gandhi installed at Gaya, a famous Buddhist centre, in the eastern state of Bihar, was found disfigured, and police believe it was the work of Naxalites. There have been similar reports from the neighbouring state of West Begal (capital Calcutta) of statues of several prominent Indian leaders attacked and damaged.

The reports said two handbills were left behind by the suspects near the Gandhi statue at Gaya. They described the father of the nation as the British agent and called for the removal of his image. No arrests have been made.

A recent report said about half a dozen extremist youths were arrested by police near Naxalbari, in northern West Bengal, where the movement originated in 1967.

INVESTIGATION OF MILITARY ESPIONAGE CASE REPORTED

BK301638Y Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali 24 Jul 78 p 1 BK

[By staff reporter]

[Excerpt] The Union Ministry of Defense has expressed concern over the recent recovery of some extremely secret and important blueprints of Calcutta's Fort William and the Barrackpore military cantonment from a soldier of the territorial army. A number of high-ranking army intelligence officers arrived in Calcutta from Delhi on Sunday [23 July] to investigate the matter.

A Defense Ministry spokesman told us today that the theft was undoubtedly the act of a foreign country. When asked which foreign country was involved, he replied that nothing can possibly be said until the interrogation of the spy-soldier is complete.

DELHI PATRIOT CHIDES VAJPAYEE'S MOVE TO NORMALIZE PRC TIES

BK301051Y Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Jul 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Vaj Payee-tung?"]

[Text] Through "special" and ordinary interviews, statements, announcements etc., etc., the external affairs minister, Mr Vajpayee, periodically gives voice to his ever increasing eagerness to go to Peking. Whether this longing represents the considered views of his pentagonal party or only that of the close group of U.S.-oriented China specialists in the south bloc, has not been made clear. Mr Vajpayee's purpose, if and when at last he reaches Peking, is said to be to "normalize" relations. Relations between India and China are in fact as "normal" as can be, till such time as the Mandarin cliques who pretend to be China's communist leadership are unable to maltreat the most lumpen nation in the world.

Normal foreign policy for China, ever since Mao murdered all his more intelligent rivals and climbed on to the seat of supreme power, has been, (according to one of his own aphorisms), to believe that, "There is an enemy behind every door that leads into or out of China." Essentially, this attitude is unchanging as can be gathered from one pearl of wisdom dropped by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng in his infinitely long address to the Eleventh Congress of the Communist Party of China. On that sacred occasion he said,"War is an interval between one peace and another. War is a continuation of politics, that is to say a continuation of peace." That is how "normal" situations and relationships are understood in Peking. It is on the basis of this belief that China conducts its diplomacy. As far as this country is concerned, the "period of peace" that has uneasily subsisted since the treacherous aggression of 1962, has been illuminated from time to time by reminders that we are one of the enemies behind a Chinese door. We have been officially insulted on important public occasions with references to us as a stooge nation, by impertinently provocative actions in neighbouring countries and by direct efforts to interfere in our internal affairs. The latest example of this was when a Chinese delegation assured the people of the Pakistan-occupied part of Kashmir that Peking will always endeavour to secure self-determination to the Kashmiri people as a whole. While such "normal" diplomacy has been going on, China has been deliberately tempting Pakistan to take to the nuclear path and become one more dire threat that India cannot afford to overlook.

Such treachery is by no means exceptional, except when Peking has to kowtow as it now has to Washington, stabbing those who are called friends in the back is "normal." The Soviet Union, the socialist countries, Albania, an occasional African country like Angola and most of all, Vietnam bear witness to this continuing element in Chinese foreign policy.

Mr Vajpayee, in the excitement of high-echleon diplomacy, tends to forget this. It is, however, fortunate for this country that the prime minister does not. He is on record to the effect that "normalization" will be possible only when all Indian territory now occupied by China is returned. That is a clear and finite position even though it may not be helpful to Mr Vajpayee's Peking romance.

NEPAL

ARYAL MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BELGRADE

BK3015307 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 30 Jul 78 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr Krishna Raj Aryal met the foreign ministers of Bangladesh, India and Iraq--Mr M.S. Haq, Mr A.B. Vajpayee and Mr S. Hammadi, respectively--in Belgrade the other day and held talks on measures to strengthen the nonalined movement and [words indistinct]. On the occasion, they also exchanged views on bilateral relations and matters of mutual and international interest.

PAKISTAN

HAQ: PAKISTAN TO RECONSIDER CENTO MEMBERSHIP

BK3112457 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 31 Jul 78 BK

[Excerpts] The chief of army staff and chief martial law administrator, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has announced the suspension for 6 months of the application of Martial Law Regulation No 150 promulgated by the previous government in 1972. Addressing a press conference in Quetta last night, he said this was being done to facilitate the fair distribution of land under the land reforms in Baluchistan. He said top priority will be given to the provision of drinking water and development of roads and electrification in Baluchistan.

The chief martial law administrator extended the period of general amnesty given by him last year to those who had left their homes during the previous regime. He did not specify the period but told the correspondents that some of the political leaders who had met in Quetta recently had asked for 6 months' extension.

In reply to a question, the chief martial law administrator said Pakistan was determined to safeguard her independence and would not expect hegemonistic influences from any quarter. He said the government would reconsider the utility or otherwise of the Central Treaty Organization and other pacts purely on the basis of national interest.

Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said Pakistan wanted to have good relations with all her neighbors including India and Afghanistan.

DUBAI RULER CONCLUDES VISIT TO KARACHI

BK2900017 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The ruler of Dubai, Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum al-Falasa, left Karachi for home after a weeklong stay in Pakistan. He was seen off by the Sind martial law administrator.

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